NATIONAL
GUARDIAN
the progressive newsweekly

5 cents

Vol. I, No. 39 NEW YORK, N. Y., JULY 11, 1949

Have they the gall to try the Six again?

By O. John Rogge

Former Asst. U.S. Attorney General
Counsel for 3 of the Trenton Six

GOVERNOR DRISCOLL of New Jersey should now acquaint himself with the facts in the case of the Trenton Six, and with the opinion of the Supreme Court of New Jersey, and see to it that these six innocent Negroes are freed without further delay.

The Supreme Court of New Jersey dealt favorably with all four of the points raised in the briefs. Its opinion on two of these points—the extorted confessions and the suppressed fingerprint evidence—would make a second trial an even greater outrage than the original miscarriage of justice.

Throughout the records there shine two aspects of the trial. One, that the Negroes in Trenton were treated as they would have been in the South; and two, that the trial was diverted from a search for the truth into a search for support of the Trenton police.

THE extorted confessions were obtained under circumstances that are rawer than those in any of the cases, with one exception, in which a Supreme Court of the United States has thrown out confessions on the ground that they violated the due process clause of the 14th amendment. The one exception was the case in which the defendant limped into the courtroom.

But in that case there was only one defendant. In the Trenton case there are six.

On Monday, June 20th, the last day of the term, the U. S. Supreme Court in three more cases—one from South Carolina, one from Pennsylvania and one from Indiana—threw out alleged confessions. The Supreme Court of New Jersey three days later cited these three decisions and quoted extensively from two of them. Its quotations included these sentences: "Ours is the accusatorial as opposed to the inquisitorial system. Protracted, systematic and controlled subjection of an accused to interrogation by the police for the purpose of eliciting disclosures or confessions is subversion of the accusatorial system."

Under the decisions of the Supreme Courts of the United States and New Jersey the extorted confessions in the Trenton case violate the Federal constitution. Without these alleged confessions there is nothing left to the case.

THE prosecutor also suppressed fingerprint evidence. The murder weapons were alleged to be two pop bottles. The State took these bottles and had them examined for fingerprints. But the prosecutor introduced no evidence on this point. When the defense tried to get this evidence the prosecutor said that it was privileged.

The Supreme Court of New Jersey has emphatically and explicitly ruled against the suppression of evidence. "There is not a fair trial when evidence substantially bearing upon the issue is suppressed or put beyond the reach of the accused. The suppression by this means of evidence upon which the innocence of the accused might depend would infringe his constitutional rights and offend against the plainest principles of justice and policy."

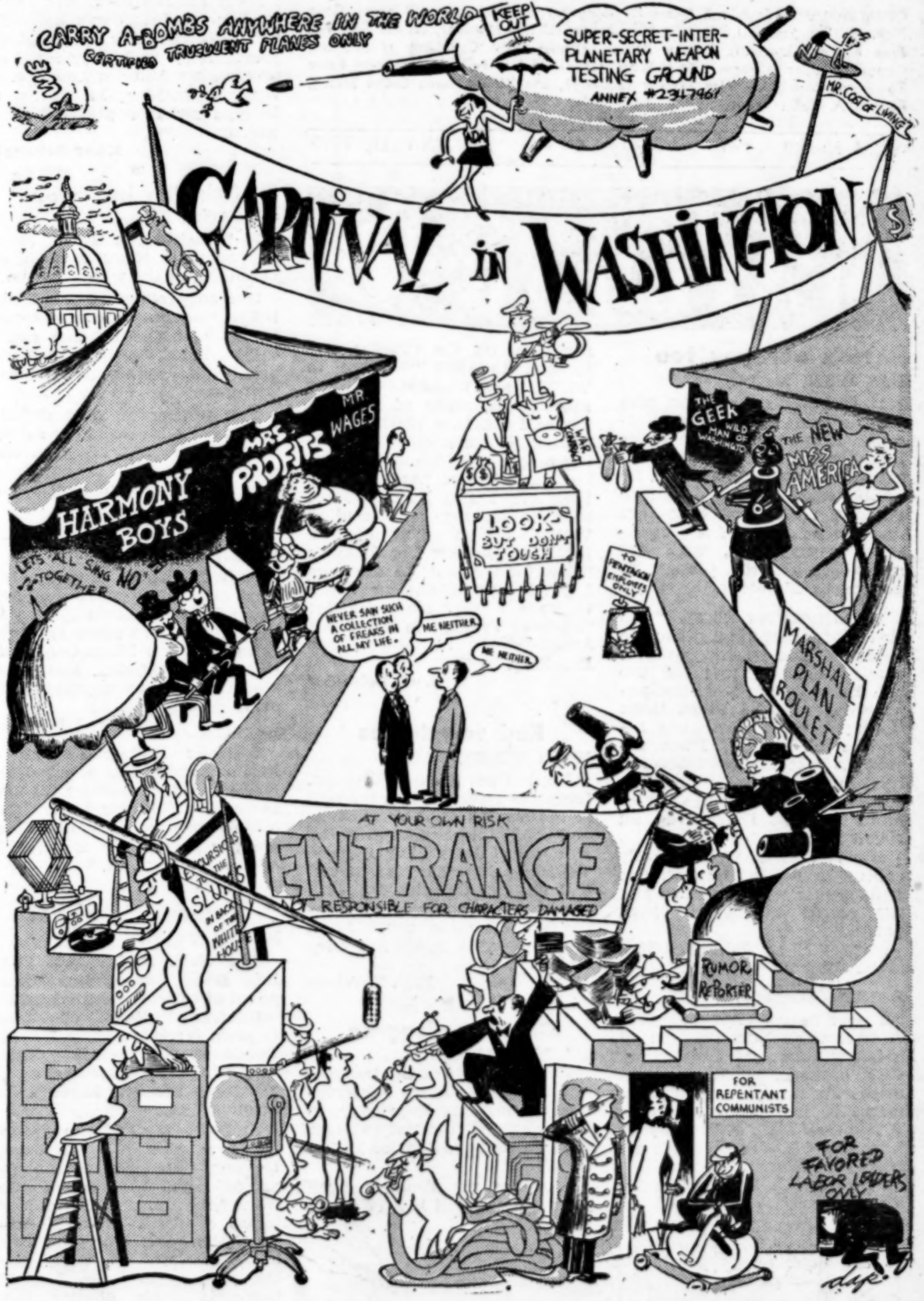
There were fingerprints on the bottles in question but they were not the prints of any of the defendants. Governor Driscoll should find out for himself whose prints were on those bottles.

WE live in a period when it is difficult to make predictions with assurance. But there is one statement I can make with complete confidence.

Ultimately we shall win freedom for the six innocent men who have spent long months in the death house in Trenton.

Under these circumstances it is hard to believe that the prosecutor will have the gall to subject them to the ordeal of a second trial. Governor Driscoll himself should take a hand and prevent such a travesty.

The inspiring saga of Bessie Mitchell—p. 4


CARRY A-BOMBS ANYWHERE IN THE WORLD
CERTIFIED TRUCULENT PLANES ONLY
KEEP OUT
SUPER-SECRET-INTER-PLANETARY WEAPON TESTING GROUND
ANNEX #2347961
ADA
MR. COST OF LIVING
CARNIVAL IN WASHINGTON
$
HARMONY BOYS
MRS. PROFITS
MR. WAGES
LET'S ALL SING "NO" TOGETHER
WAR
LOOK- BUT DON'T TOUSH
THE GEEK WILD MAN OF WASHINGTON
THE NEW MISS AMERICA
TO PENTAGON EMPLOYEES ONLY
NEVER SAW SUCH A COLLECTION OF FREAKS IN ALL MY LIFE.
ME NEITHER
ME NEITHER
MARSHALL PLAN ROULETTE
AT YOUR OWN RISK
ENTRANCE
NOT RESPONSIBLE FOR CHARACTERS DAMAGED
EXCURSIONS THE SLUMS IN BACK OF THE WHITE HOUSE
RUMOR REPORTER
FOR REPENTANT COMMUNISTS
FOR FAVORED LABOR LEADERS ONLY

The new depression

How U.S. can make 3,000,000 jobs

The Coplon case

Is Judy a human cold-war sacrifice?

IN THIS ISSUE

Page
Books 10
Chicago dateline 11
Dollar stretcher 10
Drought: C. W. Fowler 7
Far East: Malaya 5
Letters to the editor 2
Jennings Perry 2
Polish emigres 12
Pots and pocketbooks 10
Puerto Rico special 8
Report to readers 11
Roundup of week's news 5-9
Sports special 10
Washington: J. B. Stone 9
West Coast wire 11
Richard A. Yaffe 6

NATIONAL GUARDIAN
the progressive newsweekly

Published weekly by Weekly Guardian Associates, Inc., 17 Murray St., New York 7, N. Y. Telephone WOrth 4-1750.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES: U.S. and possessions, Canada, Latin America, Philippine Islands, $2 a year. All other countries, $3 a year. First class and air mail rates on request. Single copies 5c. Entered as second class matter Nov. 22, 1948, at the Post Office at New York, N. Y., under the Act of March 3, 1879.

Cedric Belfrage *Editor* — **John T. McManus** *General Manager* — **James Aronson** *Executive Editor*

STAFF: Elmer Bendiner (Associate Editor), Robert Joyce (Art Editor), Leon Summit, Robert E. Light (business and circulation); Tabitha Petran, Adele Kravitz, Dorothy R. Mishkind; Ralph Peterson (books).

CORRESPONDENTS: John B. Stone (Washington), Rod Holmgren (Chicago), Gene Richards (Los Angeles), Marcelle Hitschmann (United Nations), Gordon Schaffer, Joan Rodker (London), Stanley Karnow (Paris), Emil Carlebach (Frankfurt), George Wheeler (Prague), Nic Waal (Oslo), Ralph Parker (Moscow), Peter Townsend (Shanghai), Max Werner (military), Ella Winter, Anna Louise Strong, Richard A. Yaffe (roving).

Vol. I, No. 39 178 JULY 11, 1949

THE MAILBAG

He's our boy too

BAY CITY, MICH.

If there is one person who typifies the native mid-westerner, it is Henry Wallace. He breathes the primitive democracy of the frontier farmer. He is the voice of the American peasantry. His speeches are like the sermons of the country-side parson, who has stepped from the plough to preach to his flock.

He denounces those "who join field to field and grind the faces of the poor," with a ferocity born of love for the soil. He chastizes with the patriarchal voice of Moses those among us who waste our resources of nature. Even his enemies hate him most because he is the voice of their conscience. He is a Moses, Jeremiah and Mao Tse-tung all rolled into one.

His is now a voice bravely calling in the wilderness. But he is a man with a vision; and the people without a vision perish.

John J. O'Neil

•

BALTIMORE, MD.

I have been campaigning for Wallace since Nov., 1944. In '46 a friend suggested I switch to CIO because, while a man might deflect, an organization might be less prone to do so. I followed his advice only to have the CIO deflect while my Good Old Henry didn't.

In my Belair Market, the day after election, I changed all my signs on the counter and ice-box to read "Wallace in '52." I have Wallace's pictures around my place of business where I estimate 10,000 people pass weekly, and signs reminding people what Truman promised and asking: "Are you getting it?" I still have Wallace stickers on my auto and a Wallace button on my coat or jacket everywhere I go. I stamp "Vote for Wallace" on the bags I put things in, and am going to have a new stamp made: "Defeat Tydings in '50—Elect Aunet Mayor in '51—Wallace President in '52."

H. G. Bolander

•

Red vegetables

WEST TULSA, OKLA.

While I am backing Truman, tomatoes have become symbols to me similar to the Old Rugged Cross. I admire anyone who will take those Old Rugged Tomatoes for what he believes. But even if they hit me with tomatoes it's the sign of coming life. "Forgive them, Lord, for they know not what they do."

E. V. Harrison

•

Doctors disagree

ST. HELENA, CALIF.

Request name of the individual who paid for my subscription without my knowledge, so I may exhort him not to place me in a similar situation in the future.

If I am not dropped from your subscription lists effective immediately, I shall most certainly take this matter up with both my lawyer and postal authorities.

H. A. Grubschmidt, M.D.
Internal Medicine

•

HOUSTON, TEX.

Someone has sent you my name. Your paper is great. It burns me to the red to not have money to subscribe for it.

L. Miller

•

LOS ANGELES, CALIF.

After looking over your June 20 issue, I just can't help it: The GUARDIAN is the greatest journalistic achievement of progressive America to date. I have been for 15 years a Scripps reporter and editorial writer.

Rube Borough

•

Ask the inventor

CHICAGO, ILL.

In "Washington Week," June 20, you state there is no legal definition of the word "fascist."

One congressman has admitted he "wouldn't know a fascist if he had one by the coattails." Yet fascism has been briefly and clearly defined as: "reaction."

The author of that definition, Benito Mussolini, is surely a recognized authority on the subject.

Tom Kingswood

•

Sorry, Circle Pines

WASHINGTON, D.C.

Walt Whitman Lodge isn't "the only progressive summer camp in the Midwest," as you say on May 30. I know the folk running Circle Pines Center at Cloverdale, Mich., and can vouch for it as meriting the same description.

Fred Blossom

Midwest readers seeking a healthy mental and physical atmosphere for summer should write to Cloverdale for this camp's exciting program. Cost: $25 per person per week, 10% off for families. Ed.

•

A farmer's nickel

ERWIN, TENN.

The Natl. Agricultural Savings Bond Committee, "composed of officials of the leading farm organizations," continues to press farmers to buy Savings Bonds as "the safest possible form of financial reserves . . . as a hedge against lower farm incomes," etc.

At least 75% of the money raised by sale of these bonds is going into preparation for an offensive and commercial war. As a farmer, I wouldn't invest a nickel in them. And since the govt. still owes over $200,000,000,000 on those sold the citizens to wage War II, there is a big chance that farmers putting their money in these bonds will lose it ALL.

Ernest Seeman

•

Sympathetic blessing

BLOOMINGTON, IND.

I am happy to have you send three one year subscriptions to two of my brothers and a sister—all of whom voted for Truman because they believed in his campaign promises. They have my sympathy and their subscriptions to the GUARDIAN have my blessing!

Mrs. Newton P. Stallknecht

•

Gad, Sir!

BROOKLYN, N.Y.

Your satire on the Declaration of Independence and your general drive against the violation of democratic principles in our country could well be illustrated in a future issue by reference to a cartoon from the old **Judge** magazine.

One corporate gentleman rushes into the office of another exclaiming: "Gad, Frank! I've just discovered that the Declaration of Independence is unconstitutional!"

Ralph B. Guinness

•

Crazier and crazier

WEATHERFORD, OKLA.

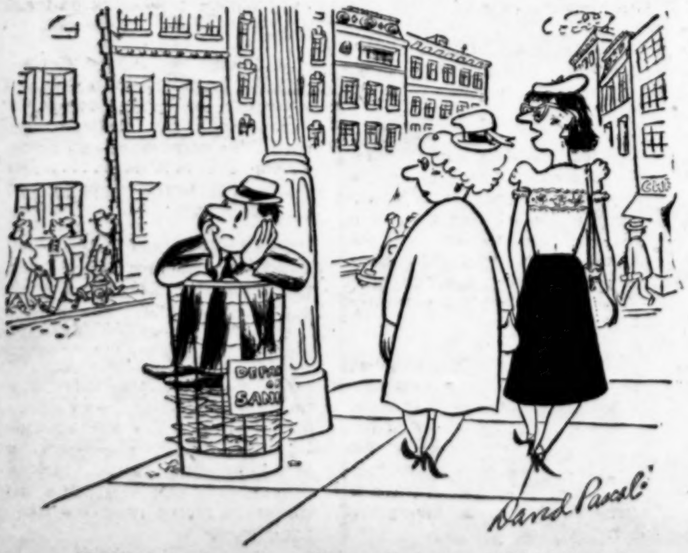
I was glad to find a good, sensible, reasonable paper as the GUARDIAN. About 98% of the capitalist press is as "opium" to the common mind.

During the last ten years of life I have been unable to do much manual labor on account of a partial paralytic stroke. So I have much time to study and think—and the more I see of this mad military gang the crazier it seems. My parents came here from a mad military nation—Germany—about 1872. They came here to avoid militarism, but it seems they jumped out of the frying pan into the fire.

A. C. Sauer

•

All subscriptions to NATIONAL GUARDIAN are paid for. If you are getting the paper without having paid for it, this means someone else paid for the subscription. You won't be billed.



"I think he has what they call strong guilt feelings."

Jennings Perry

A brave little beginning

I AM not for one-sided disarmament, but I am for disarmament. As we creep in that direction it is pleasant to know that the rest of the world is ready to meet us at the Half Way House.

It would be handsomer if we had men among our policy-makers wise and courageous enough to stand up and speak for disarmament forthrightly. Meanwhile, we can look with a certain fondness upon those who make passes at the great issue even obliquely.

SENATOR FLANDERS has gotten exactly nowhere with his suggestion that when we shall have made enough A-bombs to blow up the world we stop making A-bombs. But it was good to hear so sensible a proposal.

Senator George wants at least a 5% cut in the "big money" bills yet to come before the Congress. This, too, may be counted as a left-handed gesture towards disarmament. The big money bills are for the military establishment and for the various unconventional weapons we are using in the cold war.

Bearing somewhat closer on the target, though still shooting over the hill, is the plan Senators Murray, Sparkman and Humphreys have for setting up extensive public works to head off a "severe recession" (depression) in the United States [see Stone, p. 9]. It hardly could be coincidence that the figure the three Democratic stitch-in-timers have hit upon for their admirable project is precisely the figure — $15,000,000,000 — President Truman has asked for the armed forces budget.

Where else could such money be found?

AS I have said, these are small omens, tentative and thus far unconfirmed. But we need not scorn them. If we cannot yet bring ourselves to seize the mad bull of the munitions shops by the horns, perhaps we may lay hold of him by the tail.

Our other efforts to restrain ourselves from the folly of an arms race have not prospered. We have tried high moral resolves—right after the war. We have tried scaring ourselves out of it. Our best scientists, some time since, have told us what must happen in another war. They have spelled it out for us in terms of cities, populations and civilization itself, as specifically—and as accurately—as the National Safety Council posts us on the "toll" of an approaching holiday.

We do not scare, really. We do not stop for these things. The foreknowledge that the Fourth of July will cost us for sure 600 or 700 dead puts no arresting caution upon us. We do not leave the car at home, we do not fence the kids out of the surf, we do walk in the sun just the same.

All of the horror warnings we have contrived to heap upon ourselves do not stay us. We rush upon the holiday just the same, and the mounting casualty lists, broadcast to us on the hour, seem to spur not our prudence but our grim interest in whether the carnage will after all, as the Safety Council has predicted, surpass the carnage of last year.

Next year, we redouble our warnings and the devices for giving them — and pitch right in to make the worst come true.

WE HAVE tried preaching before and it has no persuasion; we have tried fear and we will not be sufficiently afraid. But we have never tried disarmament seriously in our pretentious adult world — when only disarmament can keep us from ghastly worldwide grief.

That is why I like to put in this word for it — while the lesson is fresh. For though we cling to our lethal cars and die from sunstroke and swimming, we **have** disarmed the Fourth of July in one important respect.

We have gotten rid of the fireworks. And for that thousands now will live who surely would have died. . . .

The A-bomb is a bigger firecracker. It is pleasant to think that we are learning how, from the bottom up, to save ourselves from these things.

You and the ERP

You can't work because Truman won't let them buy

By Tabitha Petran

THE U.S. embargo on trade with Russia, Eastern Europe and the New China is costing American workers 3,000,000 jobs which a resumption of East-West trade could provide.

U.S. trade with the U.S.S.R. was smaller last year than its trade with tiny Costa Rica. The U.S.S.R. has 212,000,000 population; Costa Rica, less than 1,000,000.

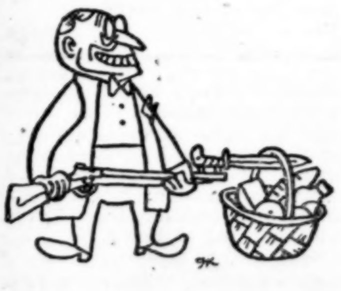
U.S. exports to the U.S.S.R. in 1948 were barely 2/10 of one percent of all U.S. exports. Three-fourths of this total was shipped in the first three months of the year. In April, 1948, the U.S. put an embargo on shipment of industrial goods to Russia and Eastern Europe. Later, it pressured Marshall Plan nations to follow suit.

By 1949 trade between the world's two industrial giants was reduced to a negligible exchange of cotton, tobacco and fur. No trade relations exist between the U.S. and the New China.

TRUMAN VS. FDR: The Roosevelt Administration planned to prevent postwar depression by granting Russia 6 to 10 billion dollars in credits for purchases in our markets.

Admiral Standley, former Ambassador to Russia, urged such trade to "help solve our own unemployment problem."

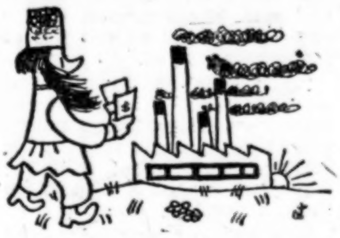
Donald Nelson wanted it because "peace is a business proposition."



The Truman Administration didn't agree. Within a few days of FDR's death, Russia was given to understand that if it wanted U.S. economic cooperation, it must yield to U.S. political demands (N.Y. Sun, April 26, 1945). Soon Washington launched the cold war against Russian economic recovery.

BILLIONS FOR A BUST: Instead of investing in prosperity by assuring U.S. business a stable market in Russia for years to come, Washington threw away $6,000,000,000 backing Chiang Kai-shek against the Chinese people.

Only big business benefited.



U.S. corporations raked in more than 62 billions in profits before taxes in 1947 and 1948—the first two years of the cold war. But every American family had its standard of living cut by having to pay $1,000 in taxes and increased prices for the cold war.

With this cold war spending, Washington has bought a first-class depression. Already 5,000,000 Americans are unemployed and another 7,000,000 are only partially employed.

Five million unemployed means a loss in wages of $12,500,000,000 a year and a loss in production of goods and services of $25,000,000,000 a year. Such a 25-billion loss means a deep cut in living standards: each American family has thereby lost over $506 in goods and services it would otherwise have had. It has been estimated that the decline, if it continues, will result in a federal deficit of eight to ten billion dollars in the 1950 fiscal year.

SELLER'S MARKET: Russia, Eastern Europe and China want goods produced by the very industries hardest hit by unemployment.

They need farm equipment of all kinds. Eastern Europe and Russia got American tractors from UNRRA. Now they can't even buy parts to service these tractors.

Unemployed farm equipment workers in Chicago, Indiana and Iowa could go back to work if the U.S. abandoned the embargo.

Also, these same nations constitute an almost unlimited market for machine tools. U.S. machine tool industry production is now only 25% of its wartime capacity. Employment has dropped from 109,700 in 1943 to 41,700 in April, 1949.

A survey made recently in machine tool centers revealed that machine tool orders from the now-blockaded nations would provide jobs for an estimated 50,000 workers.

WORK FOR ALL: Russia wants to buy construction and conveying machinery, electrical machinery, metal working machinery, mining, well and pumping machinery, rolling mill and steel forging equipment, port machinery, railroad transportation and equipment—in fact, factory machinery and equipment of all kinds. Other blockaded Eastern European countries want industrial equipment and textiles too.

China also wants industrial equipment.

This would mean jobs for steel workers in Pittsburgh, where most of the open hearth furnaces have been closed down recently; for railroad workers in Altoona and Baltimore; for machinery workers in Rhode Island where one out of every four workers has lost his job. Also, jobs for metal workers in Oakland, Chicago and New York; for electrical workers in Connecticut and Pennsylvania, foundry workers in Michigan and Ohio, longshoremen in New York and San Francisco.

Unemployed shoe workers in Massachusetts, unemployed textile workers in New England and the South, unemployed workers in consumer goods industries throughout the country would get jobs too, from trade with Eastern Europe—and from the consequent increased purchasing power for U.S. workers.

THE BOOMERANG: The cold war is proving hurtful to its intended victims. It is proving disastrous to its initiators.

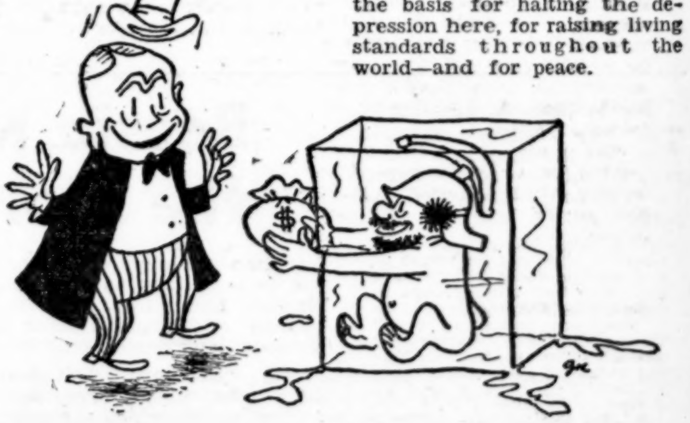
U.S. economy is choking on overproduction while nearly half the world stands ready to buy its products on businesslike terms. The blockaded nations, meanwhile, are pulling themselves up by their own boot straps. A just-published UN report reveals that there has been a greater increase in industrial production in the U.S.S.R. and Bulgaria than in any other countries in the world.

BUST THE BLOCKADE: An end to this blockade and credits to the now-blockaded nations would mean an investment in a stable world economy and peace. Russia, Eastern Europe and China would be big customers now.

And this is scarcely a beginning. They can become even better customers as they industrialize and raise their living standards. As time goes on, their trade will grow not only with the U.S. but with other countries.

Their only "terms" are that each country's right to determine its own internal economy be respected.

At a fraction of the cost of the cold war, the U.S. can lay the basis for halting the depression here, for raising living standards throughout the world—and for peace.



E-W trade=3,000,000 jobs

THE developing depression will bring about a Federal deficit of eight to ten billion dollars in the fiscal year July 1, 1949, to June 30, 1950.

By comparison, if six billion dollars in credits would promote sufficient Russian purchases here to halt the depression, we'd save money if we gave Stalin the $6,000,000,000 outright. Of course the $6,000,000,000 wouldn't do the trick all by itself. But it would be a long and necessary step in the right direction. Furthermore, we don't have to give the money away. Our own Department of Commerce gives Russia one of the world's highest credit ratings.

Economists estimate that Russia, with a $6,000,000,000 credit, would buy $20,000,000,000 worth of U.S. goods in the next ten years. This would mean exports to Russia of $2,000,000,000 worth of goods a year. Part of the exports would be covered by the credit, part by purchases of Russian metals and minerals which we need.

•

RUSSIA's yearly $2,000,000,000 purchases would provide direct jobs here for 400,000 workers in U.S. heavy industry alone.

But Russia is only one segment of the market closed to the U.S. by the cold war.

Credits to Eastern Europe enabling it to purchase a billion dollars a year in U.S. markets, and to China for the purchase of two billion dollars worth of U.S. goods a year, would provide another 600,000 jobs here.

The increased purchasing power of these one million workers would in turn insure jobs for two million more.

So an end to the cold war and resumption of normal trade relations on a businesslike basis would mean job security for three million American workers.

The cost: total credits of not more than $3,500,000,000 a year.

T.P.

Cold war did this

THE full story of Depression 1949 is tough to get at (see p. 11) but here are some grass-roots illustrations:

ILION, N. Y.—Remington Rand laid off 5,000 people with the explanation by the head of the plant that European business was "off entirely" since a large portion of Rem-Rand sales had been scheduled for Eastern European countries. A Syracuse Rem-Rand plant closed down last December and moved to Scotland, whence it hopes to be able to fulfil orders for foreign-language portable typewriters.

LIMA, OHIO.—Twenty-five percent of the working population is idle in Allen County, covering Lima Locomotive, a large Westinghouse plant and other industries.

NEW YORK CITY.—The head of a machine tool plant which employed over 400 in wartime cut his force to 90, but told the workers that if State Dept. policies barring East-West trade were changed he could guarantee 250 jobs a year for several years. During the UNRRA period the firm did considerable business with Poland and Czechoslovakia as well as with western Europe. The Marshall Plan and the East-West trade embargo forced cutbacks.

SHARON, PA.—East-West trade bans are blamed for huge layoffs in a Westinghouse transformer plant.

DAYTON, OHIO.—Employees at Federal Welding discovered that layoffs resulted from refusal of the Dept. of Commerce to grant the firm a license to export tractors to India. Contracts for the tractors had been shifted to a European plant. The employees have protested, demanding an export license for the Dayton plant.

CLEVELAND, OHIO.—Apex Electric, manufacturing washers, etc., has "run away" to a plant in England.

ERIE, PA.—"Terrific" layoffs have taken place in General Electric, which was making Diesel-electric locomotives for Soviet Russia. Locomotives completed before shipments were halted and stand undelivered on sidings at the plant.

SYRACUSE, N.Y.—General Electric withdrew a contract from Easy Washer here for the manufacture of fluorescent lamp parts, causing 700 of 1,800 employees to lose their jobs. The contract was transferred to a plant in South Africa.

NUTLEY, N.J.—Federal Telegraph and Radio, an ITT subsidiary, cut its force from 4,500 to 2,500. A plant in western Europe has taken over production of broadcast and telephone equipment.

HARRISON, N.J.—Worthington Pump, which makes turbines, now employs 1,200 as against 2,200 at its wartime peak. The firm was kept going during the last depression by orders for turbines from the Soviet Union.

PASSAIC, N.J.—Employment in wool and rayon textile plants is off as much as one-third. Textiles are among the chief needs of Eastern European countries.

SCRANTON, PA.—In the face of growing unemployment, miners are taking the lead in seeking a project to install a sewage system throughout the city, 35% of whose families have no sewage disposal.

Want more?

This article is one of several which the GUARDIAN will publish showing the direct link between America's foreign policy and the onrushing economic crisis at home. We feel this story is so important we'd like to get it into as many hands as possible. If you or your organiaztion would like free bundle copies of the issues of the GUARDIAN carrying these stories, write to Circulation Dept., National Guardian, 17 Murray St., New York 7.

Is Judy Coplon a human sacrifice to the House witch hunters—or what?

MOST publicized aim of the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) is to catch Russian spies in America.

Thus far, in several years of ardent pursuit of this objective, the FBI has brought to trial only one "catch": 28-year-old Judith Coplon, Barnard graduate, "government girl" since 1943 and daughter of a Brooklyn toy merchant who died of a heart attack shortly after his daughter's arrest.

Judy Coplon was arrested at 9:37 p.m. last March 4 at 3d Av. and 15th St., N. Y., in company with Valentin A. Gubitchev, Russian architect employed by the UN. At the time she was employed as a political analyst in the Foreign Agents Registration office of the Dept. of Justice in Washington.

"DATA SLIPS": In her purse the arresting FBI agents found a Dept. of Justice document and several "data slips." These were later made the basis for indictments charging that she intended to hand the documents over to Gubitchev "to be used to the injury of the United States."

On June 30, Judy Coplon was convicted by a jury in the District of Columbia Federal Court in Washington and sentenced to a maximum of 10 years in prison.

She is now free on bail awaiting a second trial set for next Oct. 15, this time in New York federal courts, for "conspiracy to commit espionage." On this charge she is scheduled to be tried with Gubitchev as co-defendant.

DO SPIES BUY TIES? Here is the background to the Coplon case, based on the trial record and interviews with Judy and her attorney, Archibald Palmer:

Last Labor Day weekend she met Valentin Gubitchev in the N. Y. Museum of Modern Art, and continued the friendship during periodic trips to New York to visit her family. She made no secret of her friendship with him. She went to restaurants with him, rowed with him in Central Park, and at Christmas time bought a tie for him in Washington in the presence of two other government employees. She told them it was for a Russian friend who worked for the UN.

THICK ON THE TRAIL: Shortly after Christmas she came under FBI surveillance. During that period, until she was arrested, she met Gubitchev three times: Jan. 14, Feb. 18, and Mar. 4.

On Jan. 14 Gubitchev told her he was married. Angered, she hit him with a newspaper. FBI agents testifying to the meeting failed to describe this outburst, which confirmed the personal nature of her relationship with Gubitchev.

As many as six or eight agents trailed her on each visit. At no time was any material passed between the two.

Just before her departure from Washington for the Mar. 4 visit, her superior in the Dept. of Justice, William E. Foley, gave her a document.

"IT'S HOT": She says Foley insisted that she take the document home with her. Foley says he did not insist but told here it was "hot and interesting." He admitted being in communication with agents trailing her.

In any case, she put the document in the flap compartment of her purse in Foley's presence, and left for New York.

The document was an admitted plant: a decoy report containing some true and some false information about Amtorg, the Soviet trading agency in the U. S. A.

PRESTO, THE PAPERS: That evening, instead of six or eight FBI agents on her trail, there were 26. A matron was alerted to receive her when arrested. Asst. U. S. District Attorney Raymond P. Whearty was dispatched to New York. Whearty admitted on the stand that he had gone with orders that any press release on the case would be issued from Washington — thus inadvertently confirming the defense contention that Judy was deliberately tricked and trapped on Mar. 4.

When the arresting FBI agents brought Miss Coplon to FBI headquarters in New York, an agent named Miller opened her pocketbook (which was bulging with papers) and without hesitation extracted the decoy document from the flap compartment, where she had put it under the eyes of her superior, Foley, a few hours earlier in Washington.

WANTED TRANSFER: Only much later in the night were other contents of her purse examined. These were found to include a batch of "data slips" and character sketches which, she said, she intended to include in a book on the life of a government girl.

"Data slips" are the personal working notes of government employees. Miss Coplon insists there was no irregularity in her carrying these slips; that the employee has the right to keep them or destroy them.

She was carrying hers, she says, to prepare a project based on her work at the Dept. of Justice, for a civil service examination on March 15—so that she could get more congenial work.

GOSSIP: That the data slips were an unexpected and perhaps embarrassing find in Miss Coplon's purse was indicated at the trial by the strenuous objections of the Justice Dept. to the introduction of the full reports to which the data slips referred.

Introduced over government objections, the full reports disclosed an absurd collection of gossip on prominent Americans like Fredric March and Florence Eldridge, listing their attendance at public functions such as Madison Square Garden rallies for peace. The character sketches were non-incriminating even by FBI standards.

•

Was Judy Coplon framed—as her attorney Archibald Palmer contended during the trial—to clear the FBI's skirts of the charge of harboring communists?

Was the jury unduly and improperly influenced by government attempts to compromise her morally with a Dept. of Justice lawyer?

Is someone trying to wing UN by aiming at a Coplon?

In future issues of the GUARDIAN more details will be told about Miss Coplon, about the jury that found her guilty, and about pertinent evidence which was ruled inadmissible at the trial.

Judy Coplon, out on bail, visits an old acquaintance.

Bessie Mitchell's heroism—the story AP-UP won't tell

By William A. Reuben

THE New York **Times'** report on the N. J. Supreme Court's reversal of the conviction of the Trenton Six carried this paragraph:

> The appeal had attracted nationwide attention by reason of a campaign waged by Communists and Left Wing groups to characterize the convictions as a "Northern Scottsboro Case." This drive was started six months after the convictions and coincided with the opening in New York of the trial of eleven Communists . . .

In referring to a "drive," the **Times** was correct. But this drive began on Feb. 10, 1948, less than two hours after Trenton police anounced that five Negroes had confessed to the murder of William Horner, a Trenton junk dealer.

The "Northern Scottsboro Case" did indeed eventually attract nationwide attention. But this was due, not principally to "Left Wing groups," but to the single-handed efforts of a woman named Bessie Mitchell, a sister of one of the accused men, Collis English, and sister-in-law of another, McKinley Forrest.

Trenton-born, 36-year-old housewife and N. Y. garment worker, Bessie was called by her mother, Mrs. Emma English, when the police took Collis.

RUNAROUND: When Bessie Mitchell got to Trenton that Sunday she went directly to the police station. The desk sergeant would not even tell her if Collis was being held.

Back at her mother's house, Bessie was mildly disturbed by the strange behavior at the police station. But she said to her mother: "The police would not arrest a person for no reason at all," and returned to New York that night.

The following Tuesday Bessie had another telephone call.

"Come right away, there's trouble," a neighbor said, giving Bessie no additional details. Bessie found a house-full of people and her mother distraught with anguish when she arrived in Trenton a few hours later. They showed her newspaper headlines announcing that Collis and McKinley Forrest, along with three other Negroes Bessie didn't know, had confessed to the killing.

THE TERROR STARTS: She stayed overnight. At four the next morning the household was awakened by loud knocking. Bessie opened the door. A policeman poked a flashlight in her face and said: "We want all the men in the house."

Besides Bessie, her mother and McKinley Forrest's 12-year-old orphaned daughter, Jean, there were no men in the house except John McKenzie, Forrest's nephew. The police took him away.

As soon as they left, Bessie got on the phone and stayed there until daybreak, warning all the men who might possibly come to the house—her husband, her brother-in-law, relatives, friends—to stay away.

On Wednesday, returning with her mother and Jean from the relief office, Bessie met a man who lived on Church Street. He told them that John McKenzie had also been indicted for murder.

"LIGHT - SKINNED": Why, Bessie wondered, would McKenzie have remained at home for five days if he was guilty?

She sent her mother home and with Jean went to the public library. She stayed there until it closed, going through back copies of local newspapers. Two items caught her attention and made her tighten up.

One gave a description of four men police were looking for in the Horner murder, mentioning that two wore silver-rimmed glasses and that they were light-skinned. The other was an account of Collis' arrest, which said he had been picked up on Perry Street for a traffic violation. Bessie knew from her mother that Collis was arrested at home.

"None of our men were light-skinned, none wore glasses, and none of them owned the kind of clothes described," Bessie emphasizes. "And besides, their picture in the paper had been fooled with and they were all made to look so light, they were hardly recognizable. That's when I first learned newspapers don't always tell the truth."

Bessie went to the police station and showed Acting Captain Andrew Delate her notes, with the discrepancies she had uncovered. Surely, she thought, the police would realize that there had been a terrible mistake.

Capt. Delate said curtly that the police were all through with the case, and walked away.

MORE RUNAROUND: None of the dozens of lawyers Bessie spoke to quoted a fee lower than $2,000; but one suggested that she go to the NAACP. She went to the NAACP's Trenton branch and pointed out the discrepancies.

"We don't handle murder cases," she was told.

Not knowing where to turn next, Bessie went to the Veterans Administration. Collis English is a Navy veteran on a disability pension. Bessie thought he might be entitled

(Continued on Page 12)

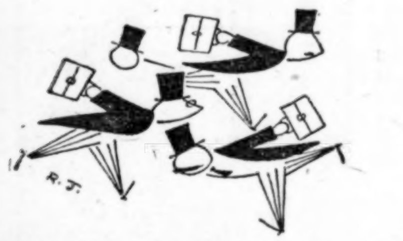
Great Day: Bessie Mitchell breaks the good news to her mother, Mrs. Emma English.

ROUNDUP OF THE WEEK'S NEWS

THE WORLD

Heresy of truth

THE war cries were subsiding. The fantasy of a holy war against communism was being blown away by the blast of an oncoming world depression.



Diplomats scurried before the storm—to Washington, London, Paris. In a shrinking market and amid cutthroat competition a cold war with Russia seemed a luxury few businessmen could afford.

The word "depression" still seemed profane to many, and Western nerves were therefore jangled when UN's Department of Economic Affairs last week issued its World Economic Report.

In neutral language, the UN warned of "a possible recession," whose danger signal is "the drop in U.S. production which occurred as a result of a fall in effective demand. . . ."

WRONG FACTS: To western officialdom the report was heresy. It showed a greater increase in industrial production in the Soviet Union and Eastern Europe than in the Marshall Plan nations and the U.S. Growing unemployment was noted in many Western nations.

"Those Soviet Prodigies," the N.Y. **Times** angrily titled an editorial discrediting Soviet production figures and defining Soviet full employment as "virtual enslavement."

The UN analyst of world trade underlined its unhealthy dependence on grants and loans. Western Europe seemed overdependent upon the U.S., while trade among Eastern European nations had greatly expanded. The UN urged nations to begin trading "as if they belonged to one world."

In the Kremlin, Soviet President Shvernik, receiving the credentials of the new U.S. Ambassador Admiral Kirk, said the Soviet Union would welcome U.S. trade proposals. At the opposite end of the political pole John Foster Dulles, in an exclusive interview with **U.S. News**, said: "There is need to break down the Iron Curtain by trade between East and West."

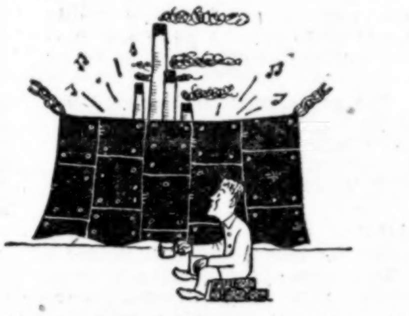
GERMANY

Maybe UN knows

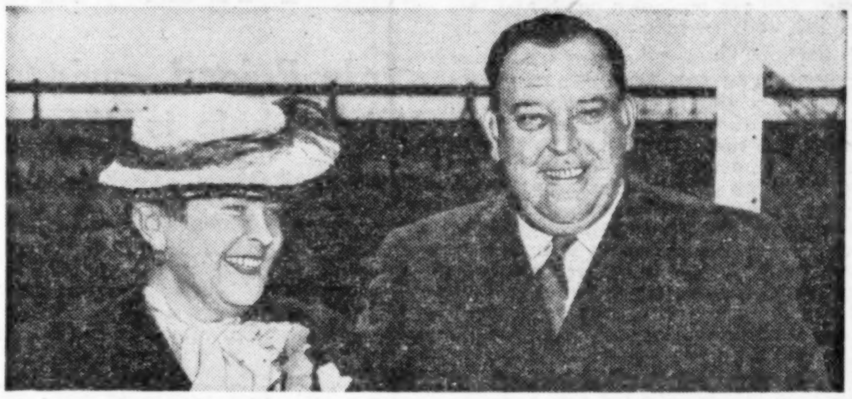
OFFICIAL Washington hastened to discredit the Soviet trade bid. Intelligence reports, said official circles, indicate that the Soviet satellite nations are much worse off economically now than just after the war.

GUARDIAN's Gordon Schaffer went to Germany to see for himself. He found ample documentation for the UN report. He wrote:

"All the propaganda about the economic difficulties of the Eastern Zone cannot conceal from the German people that in the Russian Zone there is no significant unemployment, and wages buy more, not less, of the steadily increasing volume of goods. Household goods are on sale at pre-war prices. Radio sets have just been reduced in price by 50%. Milk is now available for the younger children and clothing is plentiful.



"In Eastern Germany, the 'lure of the Golden West' no longer grips the mass of the population. Almost every family in the East with working-class relatives in the West is receiving letters telling of the unemployment. From all over the West come reports of workers unable to afford their rations because wages are lagging behind rising prices. No-one who talks to workers in Western Germany, as I did recently, can be in any doubt of the all-pervading fear of unemployment and poverty."



Mr. and Mrs. Trygve Lie: He left an economic time-bomb before sailing for home after UN sessions.

WEST NEEDS EAST: "East Germany has kept the natural pattern of its trade and has a balanced trade budget, while the West has an accumulated debt to the U.S. of $3,000,000,000, and can survive without Eastern trade only if it displaces Western Europe and even the U.S. in vital world markets.

"An increasing number of Germans are beginning to understand the significance of this East-West pattern. Recently a Soviet Zone official, addressing 300 businessmen in the U.S. Zone, explained that Western Europe is Germany's natural market for manufactured goods and machinery and that the greater part of East Zone trade is directed there. The businessmen agreed with him. Several manufacturers said that unless new markets were found they would have to reduce production."

BRITAIN

Rusty mechanism

AN amazing mechanical brain that can store and retain information has been perfected by a British scientist at Manchester University in England. Special research is under way to find out to what extent the brain can think for itself. Pending the outcome, some Britishers who heard Prime Minister Attlee speak in Manchester Sunday felt that the mechanical mind with its capacity to remember might do a better job of directing the fate of the nation than the Prime Minister. For Attlee seemed to have forgotten completely the career and fate of Ramsay McDonald, first Labor Premier of Britain, who deserted the workers to join up with the Tories.

Addressing 12,000 people in Manchester, Attlee attacked British dockers and railroad workers who have been on strike. He blamed communists, domestic and Russian. His speech was universally interpreted as meaning still further austerity measures for British workers.

STRIKINGLY COOL: The striking workers were unimpressed. Some 8,000 London dockers, who have been on strike for two months in support of the Canadian Seamen's Union, voted to continue the strike. The Labor government sent troops to unload 95 ships tied up in the Port of London. Railroad workers asking higher pay, continued a go-slow movement.

On Thursday, Chancellor of the Exchequer Sir Stafford Cripps told the House of Commons that Britain's dollar reserves have sunk to dangerous lows. Sir Stafford suspended British imports from the U.S. for three months. His long range program was based on continued British dependence on the U.S. To get dollars, he said, Britain must increase its exports to the U.S.

Cripps added ominously: "While we

Continued on following page

Far East hot war

Malayan villagers massacred to save U.S.-British profits

(Third in a series on the Western commercial stake in "backward" Far Eastern countries now struggling for independence. Previous articles covered Indo-China and Indonesia.)

BRITISH investments in Malayan rubber amount to $214,000,000; in tin, to some $60,000,000. They also control the gold, coal, iron and palm-oil industries. Over the years, these investments have meant tremendous profits for such international cartels as Lever Brothers, the London Tin Company, the Zinc Corporation and other links of the Federation of British Industries. Since the end of the war, they have helped pay Britain's share of the Marshall Plan.

Under the colonial clause of the Marshall Plan, Britain is committed to permit priority purchases—on U.S. terms—of 26 strategic raw materials. The fact that nine of these come from Malaya has put the U.S. in the driver's seat there.

SAM SAYS NO: The U.S. has forbidden Britain to sell rubber to the U.S.S.R. or to any country deemed hostile to the U.S. Last fall, Harold Wilson, president of the British Board of Trade, was forced to reveal to the House of Commons that Britain had lost $3,000,000 on a single deal alone, because Washington had vetoed the sale of a lot of rubber to the U.S.S.R. The Russians had been prepared to pay 20% above market price if necessary.

The Malayan smelting industry—a potential competitor for U.S. interests—is being destroyed by the U.S.'s simple refusal to buy tin unless Britain sells it in the form of ore. "Our biggest smelting industry," Malayans say, "is in Texas."

Nevertheless, Malayan rubber and tin are among Britain's top dollar earners. Last year, rubber alone earned $200,000,000. These profits are made possible by keeping wages frozen at the 1941 level, although the cost of living has increased 60% since then.

OUR PILE: But continued profits depend on U.S. purchases. In the words of the London **Economist:** "The key to the rubber market still lies in American consumption, and during 1949 the strength of the market is likely to depend on two factors: American purchases for its stockpile and American consumption of synthetic rubber."

This means that to keep Marshall Plan machinery running the U.S. has to continue its policy of cutting down American production of synthetic rubber, while adding the overproduction of natural rubber to its stockpile of strategic raw materials.

WHITE MAN'S BURDEN: Since the summer of 1948, Britain has been spending $140,000 a day on a war to maintain the U.S.'s reserve of strategic raw materials. To pay for the cost of the war, a loan of £5,000,000 ($20,000,000) has been made to Malaya, and a bond issue of £8,000,000 ($32,000,000) has been floated in the City of London. The bonds pay 3% tax free, and are backed by the British government. Eventually, British and U.S. taxpayers will have to foot the bill.

British methods have been ferocious. In addition to the regular components of the Army, Navy and RAF—the latter has been employed in strafing and bombing Malayan villages—the British have used Dyak headhunters from Borneo, man-killing Alsatian dogs, and flame throwers. Use of flame throwers against women was the subject of a headline in the Labor Party's **Daily Herald,** which approved of the practice.

One of the angriest scenes in Parliament occurred when Colonial Undersecretary Rees-Williams described the shooting of two Chinese women by police. No charge had been made against the women: they just happened to be in a house which was being searched.

GETTING NOWHERE: Despite British barbarity and the use of 70,000 troops, the ill-equipped Malayan People's Army (described, of course, as unrepresentative "reds") has not been destroyed. Made up largely of veterans of the war against the Japanese, it has taken to the hills and is continuing its guerrilla activities.

The British press is seriously worried. The London **Sunday Times** writes: "The casualty figures alone suggest the scale and danger of this military campaign . . . nor is there any prospect of an early end to our military commitments." Even more serious is the concern in Parliament. L. D. Gammans, MP, reported: ". . . If the present troubles continue much longer we must expect a breakdown in the rubber and tin industries . . . a crisis is at hand."

Continued from preceding page

have no desire to see wages cut, we must and can cut down costs, and this we can do if we increase our efficiency of production."

THEY HAVE TO EAT: To reporters Cripps would not deny that the U.S. might put further pressure on England to devalue the pound. But he was sure the government's new measures would not result in increased trade with the Soviet Union. Nevertheless, on Friday word came that England had agreed to buy 1,000,000 tons of grain from Russia next year. It was a barter deal that had been a long time in the dickering stage.

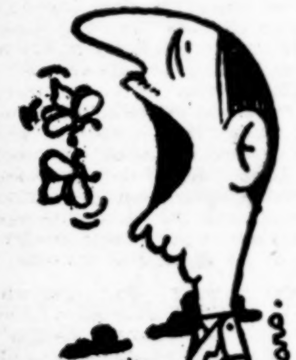
Press commentators lumped news of the deal with the standstill on dollar purchases and made it sound like a far-flung plot against the U.S.

Washington seemed unconcerned and said it had known about it all the time. There was no visible Anglo-U.S. strain on the official level. But some papers in Britain and the U.S. used the British crisis as an occasion to press for a coalition government. British Ambassador to Washington Sir Oliver Franks was reported to have returned to London with U.S. plans for aiding the Tories back to power.

HISTORY

"It was this way..."

WHILE history continued to be made as usual, alterations were in progress.



Canard Enchaine, Paris

At Tilly on the Seine Gen. Charles de Gaulle called on the ghost of "Blood-and-Guts" Gen. George C. Patton to help him correct the record. The uncorrected version of history had it that Patton crossed the Seine at Tilly, right enough, but that the Russians were the ones who took Berlin.

In unveiling a bust of the late general (caught by the sculptor with mouth open in customarily emphatic command), Gen. de Gaulle indicated that the Russians took Berlin by permission of the Western allies. De Gaulle said Patton "would undoubtedly have pursued his irresistible march eastward as far as Berlin if the policy of Yalta had not diverted him toward the Danube." The decision, he thought, might, "weigh for centuries on the life of Europe and the destiny of the world."

OLD STUFF: History as it was originally made and later recorded by Patton's superior, General of the Army Eisenhower, was different.

In his book, **Crusade in Europe,** Eisenhower wrote: "When we stood on the Rhine in the last week of March (1945) we were 300 miles from Berlin, with the obstacle of the Elbe still 200 miles to our front. The Russian forces were firmly established on the Oder with a bridgehead on its western bank only 30 miles from Berlin."

Edited atrocity

In April, 1943, the German radio announced that the graves of 10,000 Polish officers had been discovered in Katyn forest, Poland. Nazis summoned investigators they could trust from the conquered territories and from Switzerland. They exhumed the bodies that had lain three years in their graves, identified them clearly as Poles shot in the head "in the Russian manner" while their hands were tied with Russian rope.

Russians at the time ridiculed the accusation, and testimony of local Polish peasants made the Nazis' guilt clear. Few questioned the Russians then, because Katyn was in the Nazi pattern so well defined elsewhere.

Last week Julius Epstein, writing in the N.Y. **Herald Tribune,** revealed he had checked with the original Nazi-picked investigators, who stuck by their report. He suggested an "American Committee to Investigate the Katyn Murder."

Pencil stab

In Moscow's Trade Union Hall the body of Communist Georgi Dimitrov, Premier of Bulgaria, lay in state. And Joseph Stalin took his turn among the honor guard. Then the body was loaded aboard a train and carried across the Ukraine and Rumania toward Bulgaria. At the Moscow station silent crowds stood under the linden trees. Other crowds waited at cities and at whistle stops along the way.

Dimitrov was 67 when he died of diabetes and a liver ailment.

"IT DOES MOVE": Around the world people best remembered the day of Dimitrov's life when he stood in a Berlin courtroom and faced Hermann Goering. It was Dec. 16, 1933. The Reichstag building had been set afire by the Nazis newly come to power. By framing the Communists and convicting them of the crime, they tried to fasten fascism more quickly upon Germany.

Dimitrov recalled that Galileo had been summoned in his time before another inquisition and ordered to renounce his scientific heresy. Dimitrov quoted Galileo: "The earth does move all the same." Then he added: "We Communists at the present time can say no less resolutely than old Galileo: 'It does move all the same.' The wheel of history is moving, it is moving onward. . . . And this wheel cannot be arrested in its progress by measures of destruction, nor by hard labor sentences, nor by executions."

Last week the N.Y. **Times** broke a blue pencil in turning back the wheel. An editorial on July 4 said of Dimitrov: "He had what was probably the last fair trial ever held under Hitler."

DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

Caribbean Hitler

A PLANE carrying Walter White touched down at Ciudad Trujillo in the Dominican Republic on its way to Haiti. White reported that unsmiling soldiers led him "into a narrow space defined by iron chains where souvenirs and soft drinks were sold. The same stern politeness which made one feel as though a .45 was being pressed in his back accompanied the words, 'Board your plane please.'"

As his plane left the field White counted 38 P-51s, 23 P-38s, 2 B-17s and something that looked like a B-29—all crack U.S. combat ships during the war. There were also 30 or more training planes and a number of British fighters. "The atmosphere," said White, "was heavy with aggression and fear."

TRUMPETS AND TREMORS: Never in the 19 years of his tyranny did dictator Rafael Leonidas Trujillo have more reason to fear. The fear belied the trumpetings of victory.

On Sunday June 19, a Catalina flying boat took off from Cuba and landed at the village of Luperon in the province of Puerto Plata.

Aboard the plane, according to Dominican government sources, were: 110 long rifles, 24 German Mauser rifles, 14 hand machine guns, 13 Mendoza machine guns (Mexican), 12 heavy machine guns of French make, 12 rifle stocks, 4 magazines of 30 rounds each for heavy machine guns; 2 boxes of Dupont TNT, 1 small box of medicine, 268 magazines of cartridges, 4 boxes of grenades, 3 boxes of .45 caliber rifles with 12 magazines, 1 fragmentation grenade, 5 machine-gun belts.

Guerrilla war prelude

Trujillo's soldiers seized the cargo, proclaimed that an "invasion" had been repelled and from the President's

TRUJILLO

The world over -- the small

In Poland — union self-help is step to collectivization

By Richard A. Yaffe

ZAKOPANE, POLAND

ONE problem locks into another in Polish farming — and the common denominator of them all is peace.

The first problem — that of primitive farming — could be solved as quickly as the cold war could be ended. The need is for modern machinery, mainly tractors. I have been told (and I have no way of checking this) that England has closed down its tractor plants because they have no place in the Marshall Plan scheme. Poland could take darn near every tractor England could make.

THE REAPERS: Poland has had to start making tractors for herself, and has already reached a fairly healthy rate of production; but not enough, of course, to satisfy the demands of a country that's been out of feudalism for only four years.

So, outside of state farms, the bulk of the farm work we saw was being done by hand, including the reaping of wheat and rye with hand scythes.

The problem of overpopulation on the farms depends for a solution on the rebuilding of old cities and the building of new cities around old and new industries, so that the excess farm population can be syphoned into urban areas.

FAMILY AFFAIR: Small landholders in Poland have a special problem.

It has been the custom of farmers to cut a piece of land from their own inadequate farms to give to their sons when they marry. This has been going on for generations, and you can imagine how tiny many of the individual farms have become.

A great many of them are completely impractical and do not pay for the effort that goes into them. Not only do they fail to add much wealth to the nation as a whole by way of increasing the food supply, but they also fail to feed the families that work the small plots of ground.

EAST CATSKILLS: The Zakopane section is very much like the Catskill area, except that the mountains are higher, towering into the clouds, and snow-capped. The highlanders have been farming their little patches in the valleys and on the sides of the foothills longer, perhaps, than there has been a Poland, and have never been able to get back the effort they have put into them.

The government has offered to move them into the flatter and more fertile Recovered Territories (recovered from Germany), but they won't go.

MILK: A substitute had to be found for them, and it is simple.

The terrain and climate is very much like Switzerland's, and therefore the Zakopane area will be developed into a huge milk shed, able to supply not only Poland's needs, but those of any country that wants to deal with Poland.

Experts have been sent to teach the highlanders modern methods, including the necessity of forming cooperatives, an going is slow, some success has already b

FARMERS' UNION: most successful acco of the government foster and extend t Self-Help Union tha

U.S. farmer: ". . . fast rising from afflue

—Ma

ll farmer can't go it alone

ives, and while the
, some measure of
lready been achieved.

NION: One of the
ful accomplishments
nment has been to
xtend the Peasants'
ion that began in 1944. This organization functions on the cooperative principle, sees to it that members have a fair return on their investments and work, spreads agricultural instruction, shows how specialization can be made profitable, thus diversifying Poland's crops. It also creates health, welfare and educational facilities and represents the peasants in dealings with manufacturers, consumers and government.

Since the state cannot plan for these farms as it does for nationalized industry, it exerts its influence through a price policy, buying up of agricultural products, contracts with various producers for delivery of various products, etc. A direct contact with millions of private peasants is obviously impossible, and that's where the Self-Help Union comes in, acting as the representative of the peasants.

The union has been growing from day to day. It has already served to bring some order out of the agricultural chaos. But more than that, it is teaching the peasant the value of cooperation—a step toward his acceptance of collectivization.

ty."
—Mark Twain

In U.S. — gov't. inaction makes drought a horror

By C. W. Fowler

HAVERTOWN, PA.

LIKE a great many natural disasters, the long drought in the eastern states has served to sharpen an already critical situation for the working farmer.

For the few, the ill wind in this case blows good. These few are the large-scale, commercially-run farms, the middlemen who take their cut between consumer and grower, and the canners.

They do not face ruin. On the contrary, they face nothing more terrifying than higher prices and consequently higher profits.

BIRTH OF A CORPSE: What of the many? The Truman Administration and the 81st Congress, which have in their power a remedy for the plight of the small farmer, are sitting on their hands.

The Brannan plan (GUARDIAN, May 16), originally drawn to help the farmer through production subsidies while letting retail food prices drop, is not being pushed in Washington. It is being talked about while Truman leaders in Congress prepare to midwife another Fair Deal stillbirth.

The talk may be good politicking, with an eye to 1950. The inaction will bring hunger and displacement to hundreds of thousands of small farmers; higher prices—and hunger—to millions of low-income consumers.

There is a close parallel between the drought and last winter's big freeze in California. The big freeze did more than kill citrus: it froze many a small grower out of business, thereby leaving less competition for the big fellows. The drought can do the same thing to the small farmer in the east. He has small capital and no reserves. One crop loss can put him out of business, especially when banks are jittery and foreclosures imminent.

FLEXIBLE AS GOP: Of course, other remedial measures are within reach of the Administration. Crop insurance is one of them. No businessman would operate without fire insurance. Two months' steady sun will do as much to ravage a farmer's fields as a three-alarm fire can do to a factory. But the farmer is denied the protection of insurance, although there was a brief experiment with it in New Deal days.

Another remedial device is full price support at 100% of parity, which guarantees a floor under prices paid to the farmer. This too has been shunted aside in the 81st Congress; the "flexible" price-support law passed by the GOP-controlled 80th is still due to come into effect January 1.

FREEDOM ON TOAST: The farmer's depression began months ago, when commodity prices started to decline. It gets deeper every month that the Truman Administration lets go by without action. Depression is catching.

The drought accentuates a process already in effect. It adds a fillip by pushing up retail food prices and swelling middlemen's and processors' profits.

In some countries things are done about natural disasters, and not just by the Red Cross. But there, of course, there's no "freedom." Even us hayseeds know that.

palace came a list of those killed.

Last week GUARDIAN learned that at least one of those listed was not dead but a prisoner; another was very much alive in the hills, sheltered by what may one day become a lively guerrilla movement.

The U.S. press treated the story as a banana-republic escapade, then suddenly dropped it. GUARDIAN learned that it was no escapade but a deadly serious revolt.

THE PLAN: It was to be not an invasion but an armed uprising, organized by refugees from Trujillo's tyranny. Guns and munitions were to be delivered by seven planes to an underground movement now operating inside the country. Some reinforcements would be flown in, but most of the rebels are under Trujillo's nose.

After the cargo was unloaded the planes were to take off for a predetermined Central American port. Help in men and material would be quickly forthcoming from sources in Central America, once the revolt got under way.

THE FLOP: Here's why the revolt failed. Two U.S. pilots sold out to Trujillo, flew to the dictator bringing him the planes, the equipment and a foreknowledge of the plans. Four other planes were forced by bad weather to land in Mexico. Their pilots and passengers are still detained in Mexico City.

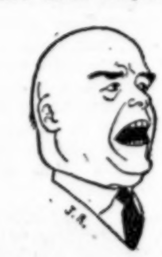
Security precautions were loose and made it easy for Trujillo's spies. The planes were due to reach Luperon at 7 p.m. By 2 p.m. all Havana buzzed with news of the revolution. Premature communiques popped up everywhere.

T[illegible] rebels, hitherto unidentified, are m[illegible]rs of the Caribbean Legion. The Legion has targets other than Trujillo; its area of operations is broader than the Dominican Republic. Next week's GUARDIAN will carry the full story of the Legion.

THE NATION

Don't call it that

"I'LL be damned if I can see how you can call it recession," said Speaker of the House Sam Rayburn (D-Tex.).



He had just come from a conference with President Truman, who was busily preparing his economic report for delivery on Monday. The congressman derived his jocular mood, he explained, from counting those who are employed rather than those who are unemployed.

The technique of finding only what you look for was broadly applied.

President Truman looked at the Stock Market, which had rallied, and told newsmen he felt quite bullish. GUARDIAN's John B. Stone learned that the President's report would probably appeal to businessmen and labor to work together to pull the nation out of what Rayburn said you could not call a recession.

TERRIFYING PEACE: The inability to see things whole was sweeping the nation like an epidemic. It was virulent in Congress. Symptomatic was the tendency of senators to get their phrases mixed during the debate on the North Atlantic Pact.

The Pact had been billed as a guarantee of peace. Sen. Tom Connally (D-Tex.) led off the debate by urging Senators to erect "a flaming sign to any aggressor: Do Not Enter."

Sen. Arthur H. Vandenberg (R-Mich.) followed Connally by urging approval of this "terrifying authority for peace."

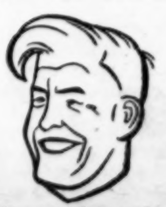
Little Sir Echo

The flaming and terrifying language sounded brittle and hollow. It was like an echo from months ago when the cold war seemed gallant, the depression distant.

Senate leaders seemed in part at least to recognize the Pact as an outdated device which must be pushed largely for the sake of prestige. They tried to halt the growing defections from the Pact by stressing that senators could still oppose the program of arms shipments overseas which was designed to implement the Pact. Sen. Vandenberg argued: "But the timing and the nature and extent of implementing legislation in this or any other year are, in my opinion, wide open. . . ."

COACH DULLES: The strategy of the Pact had long been credited to the expert sideline coaching of John Foster Dulles, UN delegate and the man who was to be Thomas Dewey's secretary of state when Dewey became President.

At the week-end Gov. Dewey, still in Albany, N.Y., sent Dulles to Washington to fill the seat of retiring Sen. Robert F. Wagner. He will serve until Dec. 1. Pact strategists welcomed the coach into the floorplay.



Henry Wallace addressed a letter to the Senate. He considered the unemployed in U.S. and western Europe and said:

"And now it is proposed by the Truman Administration to impose on these tottering economies the enormous burden of additional arms which the Pact requires. It is now proposed to divert the energies and the capital and the resources of these nations to further military preparedness when all resources are needed to prevent economic disaster."

WASHINGTON

'Twas but a dream

LIKE a will o' the wisp, Harry Truman's Fair Deal was always just out of reach. In 1948 it was to have been achieved in 1949. By the middle of 1949 it had become a promise for 1950.

By last week the 81st Congress had kicked the President's platform into small pieces. Civil rights were a dead issue; the Taft-Hartley Law was still on the books; the Brannan farm program was on the shelf; minimum wages were still where they were when Truman took office; rent controls had been breached; the health plan wasn't even being talked about; the whole program was a sad shambles. But the pieces were being carefully picked up to be reassembled for the next campaign.

With the wreckage almost complete, Congress itself was in the summer doldrums last week. The Senate was busy with the Atlantic Pact but not much else was going on. There was some worrying being done about the $1,811,000,000 deficit, and the "economy" bloc was still trying to put over a straight 10% slash of all appropriations bills.

MARC STILL THERE: For those who still believed that Administration forces were really set on repealing the Taft-Hartley Law, there was the example of Rep. Vito Marcantonio's (ALP-N.Y.) petition to bring the issue to an immediate vote in the House.

If 218 congressmen signed it, the matter would be up for action in its simplest, clearest form: straight repeal of Taft-Hartley, re-enactment of the Wagner Act without amendments. By the end of the week less than 50 representatives had the courage or conviction to put their names on the petition. No Administration leader would touch it.

For the rest, congressmen were concerning themselves with matters like Sen. Pat McCarran's (D-Nev.) bill to import 250 French, Greek and Basque sheepherders. And Westbrook Pegler came before a House Labor subcommittee. Characteristically he inveighed against "despots, criminals and communists" in labor.

By the end of the week the President got the one bill his Democratic-controlled Congress managed to pass: the public housing act which calls for 810,000 new low-cost dwellings in the next six years.

CIVIL LIBERTIES

Let's be free

THE political climate in the U.S. was hot as a July 4th firecracker last week but Americans were refusing to be frightened. All over the country men and women were adding their names to a sponsor list for a Bill of Rights Conference in New York City's Henry Hudson Hotel on July 16 and 17. By midweek 545 had defied the House Committee on Un-American Activities by putting their names on the list.

Most significant were the messages

Continued on following page

Continued from preceding page

from the South. They read like this: From New Orleans—"Secured: three more delegates from Louisiana." From Rev. Alva W. Taylor, Nashville—"Glad to join your sponsors." From Vivian C. Mason, civic worker in Norfolk—"A thousand times yes!" From Percy Green, editor and publisher of the Jackson (Miss.) Advocate—"This will authorize you to add my name to the sponsors' list." From Horace S. Meldahl, Charleston attorney—"I am very hostile to the efforts of many who wish to convert the U.S. into a thought-Siberia." From the Rev. W. Carroll Brooke, Staunton, Va.—"I am greatly concerned at the forms of hysteria which seem to be attacking our basic civil liberties."

RED THOUSANDS: From Sells, Ariz., the Council of the Papago Tribe of Indians backed the New York conference and cited one reason for their concern: "12 years ago ten Papago Indians filed applications for social security assistance. Today the surviving three are still waiting. . . ."

The conference was initiated by Paul J. Kern, former president of the New York City Civil Service Commission, and a group of 11 prominent associates.

Purpose was to set up new safeguards for the constitutional guarantees of free speech, free press, freedom of assembly and religion. The conference call took two printed pages to list some of the current attacks on these traditional rights of Americans. They ranged from banning of the **Nation** in New York City schools to the trial of the 11 Communist Party leaders.

Wilting teachers

THE National Educational Association is the nation's biggest (425,000 members), most important organization of teachers. Its policies usually become standard practice in U.S. schools. Last week the association held its 87th annual convention in Boston's historic Mechanics Building hall. Five thousand teachers were there, 3,000 of them voting delegates.

In this third year of the Truman Loyalty Order, communism was the association's biggest issue. Would the nation's educators, who prize academic freedom above all things, wilt under the heat of current hysteria?

GENERAL EDUCATION: For a time it seemed they might hold out. One of the convention's first actions was taken by the Department of Classroom Teachers, with 1,000 delegates: they unanimously adopted a resolution "deploring" teacher loyalty oaths now required by new laws in 25 states.

But on Wednesday the Educational Policies Commission offered its report, prepared by 20 "leading educators" including Gen. Eisenhower of Columbia. Its major premise was that members of the Communist Party are unfit to teach.

There was not much opposition. Only one delegate, Rose Russell of the New York City Teachers Union (CIO), spoke against it. But excitement ran high: all rules were suspended to permit adoption of the report two days ahead of schedule.

Freedom to bull-whip

THE Mississippi Economic Council was alarmed: "leftist groups," it found, were "making greater inroads into Mississippi than most people realize." To counteract the reds, the Council set up an Education Committee "to develop and execute an educational program contrasting the American way of free enterprise with communism."

On the very same day Mississippi newspapers revealed a Mississippi aspect of the American way: State Senator Fred Jones, disagreeing with a legislative committee report on state prison practices, revealed that the 15,000-acre prison farm at Parchman, produced profits of $500,000 a year by "driving them (the convicts) with a bull whip from sun-up to sunset." Use of the lash is legal and left to the discretion of prison overseers in Mississippi.

THE TRIALS

Out of control?

THE assaults on civil liberties multiplied daily, hourly. Though no decision had been rendered in his deportation proceedings, agents of the Immigration and Naturalization Service seized. George Pirinsky, exec. secretary of the American Slav Congress. The only official explanation was: "The department doesn't want him at liberty any longer."

Judith Coplon's ordeal was put off to Oct. 15 (see p. 4.) The trial of Communist Party leaders for "conspiring to advocate" the teachings of Marx and Lenin continued as the defense tried to show by the record of the defendants what the Party stood for.

And Alger Hiss faced his jury. Judge Samuel H. Kaufman had charged the jury that to declare Hiss guilty it would not be enough to find Hiss a liar and Whittaker Chambers altogether credible. In addition they would have to find in the evidence solid corroboration of Chambers' testimony.

ACID TEST: The case seemed to be a test of America's temper. Could Alger Hiss, with the aura of the New Deal still on him, with two Supreme Court Justices and a Governor to attest his character, be convicted on the testimony of perjurer Whittaker Chambers?

If so it would seem that, in the U.S., to be charged with espionage or even with any sympathetic connection with communism is to be half-convicted. If the jury were to acquit Hiss, then the nation was clearly not out of control.

Thrice on Friday afternoon, the jury filed into the courtroom and reported they could come to no decision. Each time Judge Kaufman ordered them to try again. At press time they were still at it.

Puerto Rico special

Marshall Plan, Taft-Hartley are old stuff to Puerto Rican labor

By Egon Pohoryles

"WE ARE victims of fifty years of Marshall planning," said Juan Saez Corales, secretary general of Puerto Rico's Unidad General de Trabajadores (General Confederation of Workers). In New York to gain American support for Puerto Rico's fight for independence, the wiry veteran of labor's struggles described the effects of U.S. colonial policy: "Over 200,000 of our people are unemployed, the average hourly wage for industrial workers is 30c, and agricultural workers get $1.50 a day."

The low wages and absence of social security, said Saez, have made Puerto Rico a paradise for exploitation. Ninety per cent of the cultivable land is absentee-owned, while thousands of workers are recruited for work in the U.S. in non-union shops or on the land at sub-standard wages.

THE YANKEE DOLLAR: Despite the exportation of surplus labor—a forced emigration due to the lack of economic opportunity—a large labor surplus remains. Fifty years of "Marshall planning" have prevented Puerto Rico from developing an economy of her own. She is forced to buy from and sell to the U.S., at prices determined here.

JUAN SAEZ CORALES

One of the immediate results of independence, said Saez, would be the free exchange of goods with the whole world, and enough work for Puerto Rico's people. "Being a colony, we cannot develop a national economy. We must serve as a dumping ground for the U.S."

Since $800 a year is needed for a half-way decent life, and the average worker gets only $340, a gigantic slum called El Fanguito, the mud hole, has grown up in San Juan, the capital. Here workers live without the barest necessities of life, under conditions that would be considered intolerable anywhere else in the world. When Saez speaks of the Marshall Plan, therefore, he says he must agree with Henry A. Wallace's statement that it is an attempt to turn the whole world into a El Fanguito.

NO FOOD, JUST COPS: Puerto Rico, said Saez, is short of everything it needs. There are not enough doctors or nurses, not enough schools, not enough houses, not enough food. The only thing of which Puerto Rico is not short is police. Leaders of the national liberation movement are imprisoned and, occasionally, massacred. Thought control is even more flagrant than in the U.S. Students at San Juan's university do not dare to express themselves, while the Puerto Rican Federation of Labor, an offshoot of the AFL, has been busy dividing the labor movement.

Saez pointed out that the importation of Puerto Rican labor to the U.S. tended to bring down wages here, while many U.S. firms were taking advantage of the absence of minimum wage laws in Puerto Rico to move their factories there.

He asks Americans to help free his country. It would be to their own advantage to do so, he said, since "the American people cannot be free unless they help us to be free too."

LABOR WEEK

Eruption in Detroit

AMERICA'S most explosive union—the United Auto Workers (CIO)—was set to erupt again. At the end of the week delegates were streaming into Milwaukee, Wisconsin, for the 12th annual convention.

As always, they were divided into factions, this time for and against the right-wing administration of Walter Reuther. These in turn were divided into subfactions. In addition, there was a large group in the middle ready to swing either way.

Opposition to Walter Reuther's leadership was sizable, highly vocal but not too well organized. How strong it really was wouldn't be known until the votes were counted. The significance of that opposition far exceeded the UAW. Reuther is one of Murray's key lieutenants in CIO, a Truman bellwether.

UN-REUTHERIZED: The battle cries of the opposition were clearly worked out. Percy Llewellyn, an old-timer in the union and former president of the big Ford local, summed them up in his campaign for the post of regional director on Detroit's potent West Side (Reuther's own home ground).

The Reuther settlement of the recent Ford strike he labelled a "betrayal." He used the same word for Reuther's agreement to let Detroit auto plants get parts and dies from the struck Bendix plant in South Bend, Ind.

"The auto workers," he went on, "are sick of escalator clauses, company security clauses, and raiding of other unions. We face unemployment, speedup and onslaughts against every gain made by our union. Reuther does nothing. . . . Reuther must be stopped if we are to save the UAW. . . . Reuther (has) been Taft-Hartleyized."

Outlook: bitter

Most of the debate at the convention would be cast in similar bitter and acrimonious language. Reuther supporters would be just as tough.

W. G. Grant, a former president of the Ford local and a former international representative of the union, would run against Reuther on a platform including these major planks: against raiding other unions; for preservation of local autonomy; against the proposed dues increase; against speedup, which loomed as a major union issue.

W. G. GRANT

WEATHERVANE: In a statement announcing his candidacy, Grant denounced Reuther's settlement of the Ford strike and was critical of Reuther's entire 3-year tenure as union

Continued on following page

Continued from preceding page

president. "His political maneuvers," said Grant, "ranging from quiet opposition to President Roosevelt in 1944, his frantic support of the abortive Eisenhower boom, his switch to Justice Douglas, and then his final acceptance and blank-check support of Truman—all of this has weakened the political influence of the UAW. . . .

"I oppose Walter Reuther's lumping of communists, liberals and progressives into one neat little package so he can red-bait the whole, at the same time that he ignores the danger from the extreme right."

PLAN FOR DICTATORSHIP: Reuther's strategy was not being revealed in advance. From past performance it could be predicted that he would depend heavily on rhetoric. He was also armed with pre-convention recommendations of the convention Constitution Committee which, if adopted, would make some fundamental changes in the union's prized democratic procedures and make it harder to unseat officers in power.

The recommendations would replace the annual convention with one every two years; empower the International Executive Board to seize control of locals, including funds and records, without advance hearings or charges; empower the Board to revoke charters and issue new ones covering the same jurisdiction; empower the Board to prefer charges against any member "where the welfare of the International union or of any local union is involved." These changes were backed up with a proposal for an increase in dues.

To the opposition this was "dictatorship."

Sewing the wind

LAST May Day M. C. Lightner, president of the Singer Sewing Machine Co., was quite indifferent to threats of his employees to strike. He told them: "You can stay out till the Christmas bells ring."

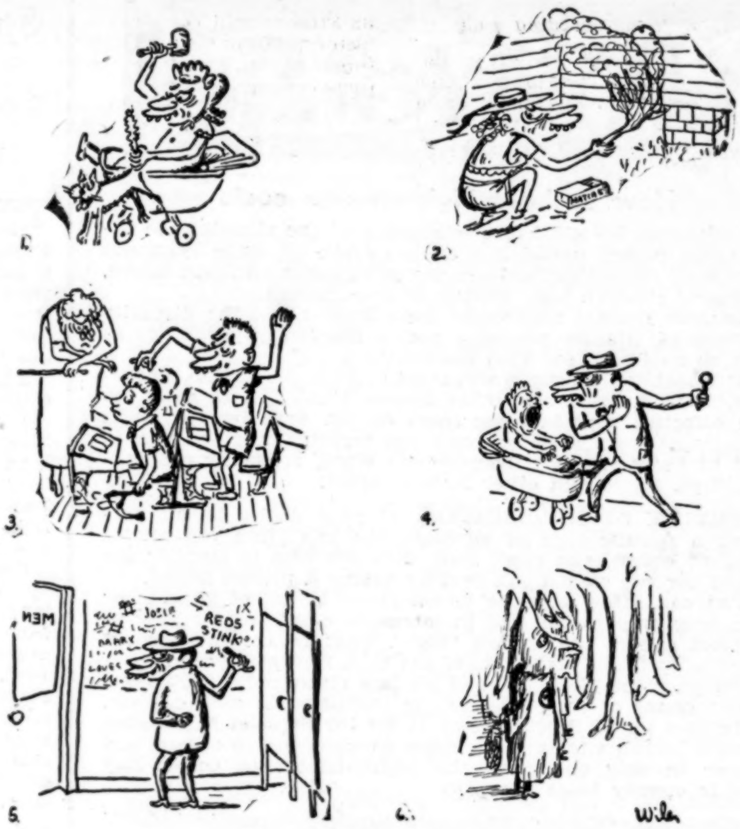
Last week the Christmas bells were still six months off. But M. C. Lightner was doing what he could, short of granting union demands, to get his workers back on the job: his stockpile of sewing machines was running out.

The strikers—7,000 in Elizabeth, N.J., 1,400 in Bridgeport, Conn., led by the CIO United Electrical Workers—were holding firm. Biggest issue, as in most U.S. plants this summer, was speedup.

ROUGH STANDARDS: In Singer Sewing Machine it was called "Standards," a system of concentrated effort cooked up by an "industrial engineer" named Phil Carroll, Jr. How "Standards" worked was illustrated in one department in the Bridgeport plant: under the old piecework system each worker turned out 47 machines in 5½ days; under "Standards" the rate was boosted to 67 in the same length of time and three-quarters of the workers in the department were laid off. Seniority, job security and wages all went tumbling.

The strike had an importance beyond immediate shop grievances. The management, hitherto on fairly amicable terms with the union, became intransigent this year, deliberately forced the strike. Other key employers in key industries dealing with key unions were adopting similar tactics. The pattern seemed clear to many: management in the U.S. was off on an organized planned effort to break left-wing unions.

This week Singer strikers plan to picket retail stores. Their slogan, aimed at stirring up dealer and consumer pressure on the company: "Make Singer Negotiate."



Scenes from the life of a "patriot."

Hawaiian cold war

Russell Starr, a spokesman for industry, charged that (Harry) Bridges is coming here to launch a 'peace offensive' calculated to end the strike on the union's terms. (From a United Press dispatch from Honolulu.)

THIS declaration couched in cold war language was a gauge of the employer's mood in Hawaii as the strike of 2,000 island longshoremen for a 32-cent-an-hour wage increase entered the third month.

Pending Bridges' arrival, no end was in sight for the tie-up. On Tuesday union and management representatives met for 12 minutes, reported "no progress," adjourned without a date for another meeting.

A union spokesman said employers were sticking to their original offer of a 12-cent-an-hour increase. The union had rejected a proposal for a 14-cent increase made by Gov. Stainback's fact-finding committee. It held to its original demand, which would still leave island pay 10 cents lower than on the mainland.

UNDERTAKERS: Employers were plunking everything on anti-communist hysteria to break the strike. While millionaires' wives picketed the pickets, a secret vigilante organizaton calling itself the IMUA was set up; the initials stood for "I Might Undertake Anything." Ben Gitlow and Elizabeth Bentley, professional informers, were imported for an American Legion anti-communist "seminar." Talk was that U.S. fascist Merwin K. Hart would be brought in to add to the heat. The strike was rapidly entering the showdown stage.

Down With the Lower Classes

ALP primary

IN Manhattan, the American Labor Party faced a primary contest. The contenders for the nomination for borough president: Ewart Guinier, international secretary-treasurer, United Public Workers CIO, regular designee of the N.Y. County executive committee and the first Negro candidate for the office in N.Y. history; and City Councilman Eugene P. Connolly, ALP founder and ALP-Progressive congressional candidate in '48.

Insurgent Connolly charges a "Stop Connolly" motive behind the Guinier nomination. Organization leaders headed by state ALP chairman Vito Marcantonio label the Connolly challenge a "Stop Marcantonio" move.

District clubs, seeking unity, back the Marcantonio side, recommend another place for Connolly on the citywide ALP slate for '49 provided he drops the primary fight.

Labor briefs

OTHER developments in labor's week were:

- Rank and File painters failed by 361 votes (out of 6,000 cast) to defeat Martin Rarback, secretary-treasurer of New York Painters District Council 9 (AFL), but consider election results something of a victory anyway. Three out of seven elected business agents were rank and filers. Rank and file painters in recent months have been going to the District Attorney's office with evidence of graft and corruption (GUARDIAN, June 20). Sam Lemkin, co-trustee with Rarback of the Council's Insurance Fund, is presently under $5,000 bail awaiting trial on $500,000 fraud and grand larceny charges.
- U.S. Steel and United Steel Workers (CIO) stopped talking on Wednesday. Big Steel turned down a fourth round of wage increases and wouldn't even talk about pensions. Philip Murray and Vice-President John A. Stephens of U.S. Steel were due to confer on Monday with Federal Mediator Cyrus S. Ching in Washington. The present agreement allows for a strike by July 16 if no new contract is signed. Meanwhile 72 little steel companies signed new contracts with the union.

Hold your hats

Here we go again on Herbie's 'trickle-down' roller coaster

By John B. Stone

WASHINGTON

THE Administration finally began, with a lumbering movement, to bring up its guns against unemployment this week.

Progressive economists saw something of the flavor of Alice Through the Looking Glass in the nature of the offensive. Good intentions were there, they said, but little knowhow.

After months of collaboration between Sen. Thomas E. Murray, New Dealer from Montana, and economists from top brackets in government and labor, the Economic Expansion bill was almost ready for unveiling. The Government Printing Office was at work on the seventh version of the bill.

Leon Keyserling, member of the President's Council of Economic Advisers; Louis Bean, economic adviser to Agriculture Secretary Brannan; Donald Montgomery, economist for the United Auto Workers (CIO), and economist Stanley Ruttenberg of the national CIO are responsible for the content of the bill.

FROM HOOVER'S MUSEUM: To a veteran observer of Washington goings-on it appears to be a return to the Herbert Hoover philosophy of "trickle down." It sets out to guarantee full employment by giving corporations in "designated areas" of the economy a break in taxes. It sets up a National Economic Advisory Board; it pays lip-service to "voluntary wage adjustments."

But it does not meet the actual problems of the more than 5,000,000 men and women who have no jobs.

Albert J. Fitzgerald, president of the United Electrical, Radio, and Machine Workers (CIO) and head of the Progressive Party labor division, doesn't want to hurt Senator Murray's feelings. But he felt it necessary to write the Senator as follows:

"In order to make sound proposals for full employment, it is essential to have a correct basic evaluation of the character of the threatening economic crisis. It is my opinion that the present recession and the threat of depression arises fundamentally from a lack of purchasing power—so-called effective demand—in the hands of the mass of the American people. The problem is to develop markets, both at home and abroad, for the tremendous capacity of American industry and agriculture.

"I believe this bill is at fault because its dominant theme is the expansion of the capacity still further."

IT WON'T TRICKLE: Keyserling himself warned two years ago that we must abandon the trickle-down theory. Truman in his State of the Union message said the same.

In May of this year Kenneth B. Williams of the Division of Research and Statistics of the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System said: "If the market for consumer goods and services is maintained at a high and stable level, investment undertaken in order to satisfy the market is almost certain to be forthcoming."

But Murray and his seven co-sponsors of the Economic Expansion Bill can only think, it appears, of bribing big capital to make more investments by cutting their taxes. Murray's pals in the legislation include Thomas of Utah, Kefauver of Tenn., Kilgore of W. Va., McMahon of Conn. and Humphrey of Minn. Pepper of Florida and Neely of W.Va. are also interested.

DOLLAR STRETCHER

How to beat high vitamin costs

AN adequate, balanced diet will supply all the vitamins the average person needs. But doctors often prescribe synthetic vitamins to correct diet deficiencies or for other medical reasons, and young children need vitamin D preparations.

Because doctors apparently don't know about the disparity in prices of vitamin products, people frequently pay twice as much as necessary for such prescriptions.

The fact is that preparations sold under the Squibb, Parke-Davis, Lederle, Miles and other famous labels are no safer, no more effective, and in some cases do not even have as high potencies as those sold for much less money under the private labels of Sears Roebuck, Montgomery Ward, consumer cooperatives, dept. stores and other large retailers.

B COMPLEX DE-COMPLICATED: If your doctor hasn't prescribed a specific type of vitamins, but has given you an Rx which, of course, you can't read, then ask him to identify the vitamin for you so you can save by buying a private brand.

You can safely buy the lowest-priced brand of vitamin or other drug preparation sold in interstate commerce as long as the label carries the initials "USP". That means the product measures up to the standards of the U. S. Pharmacopoeia.

Compare the labels too, and see how many units, milligrams or micrograms of each vitamin are contained in each capsule. Ward's own brand B complex at $1 for 100 capsules has higher potencies in two vitamins, the same strength in two others, and is lower in only one, than the highly-advertised **One-A-Day** which is exactly twice the price.

CUTTING KID COSTS: The same disparity occurs in infants' vitamin preparations. If you read the labels, you'll observe Sears' oleum percomorphum and the **Mead** brand both contain the same amounts of vitamins A and D, but Sears own brand costs 20% less.

Another firm that sells its own brands of vitamin preparations by mail, at reasonable prices, and will either fill prescriptions or sell specific preparations, is Vitamin-Quota, with depots at 880 Broadway, New York City, and 2594-15th Ave., San Francisco.

Such large department stores as Macy's, New York; Field's, Chicago; Hudson's, Detroit; Bullock's, Los Angeles, and Stix, Baer & Fuller, St. Louis, also have their own brands at low prices.

Used cars rise; wait for autumn

AFTER a price drop last spring, used-car prices have moved up again under the pressure of summer demand. If you're planning to buy, wait until September if possible. The used-car market is expected to crack even wider than usual this fall since new-car output is touching record heights this summer.

Pots and Pocketbooks

Cool off with rhubarb

By Charlotte Parks

EX-CONGRESSMAN Maury Maverick wrote a book to prove that politics is just a matter of groceries. According to Cedric Belfrage's London reporter, coke threatens to louse up our relations with the British proletariat.

It works both ways: what Americans think of British "austerity" beer is just as unprintable.

These tropically hot days the problem of new and tempting and inexpensive long cool drinks to serve the family and guests calls for our famous American knowhow. And when it comes to soft drinks you don't have to be a chauvinist to believe that the American housewife leads the world.

Our canned vegetable and fruit juices will do more to promote the democratic way of life than a shipload of diplomats. You don't have to cram a fruit cocktail down anyone's throat—babies cry for it and strong men grab it.

Rhubarba

A pleasant change from lemonade, cold tea and iced coffee. Take a bunch of rhubarb, unpeeled and stewed until soft (about five minutes). Put through coarse sieve. Dilute with plenty of water and add sugar to taste. A wonderful quencher and the pink color is an added pleasure.

The hotter the weather, the cheaper is rhubarb. By the time you are tired of it as a sauce, the more you will enjoy it as a drink. One Chicago cafeteria became famous for its big nickel glasses of rhubarba.

Circus Lemonade de Luxe

Peel and grate four raw beets. Cover with water and boil five minutes. Add 1½ c water, two lemons or the equivalent in canned lemon juice or lemon powder. If you want to spread yourself, add a tbsp. of sour cream to each large, long, icy glass. Ah! Schrumptious!

Erin Go Braugh

Boil one-half pound spinach in 1½ qt. water, three minutes. Press through fine sieve. Add lemon juice and sugar to taste. A big tablespoon of pineapple ice to the glass, and your fame as a maker of summer drinks will travel far.

Delicious! Full of vitamins! Cheap! Maybe you want an egg in your beer?

Sports special

Big Luke's knee makes ball empire tremble

By Gene Richards

LOS ANGELES

THE spectacular baseball future of Big Luke Easter, Negro swat king of the Pacific Coast League, was saved last week by an outside triple play that landed him a long overdue operation for a dangerously chipped knee.

The limping boxoffice sensation of the San Diego Padres was rescued from the lineup and flown to a Cleveland clinic by Hank Greenberg of the world champ Indians, with a neat assist from West Coast progressives and sportswriters.

Farmed out his first season by the parent club in Cleveland, the giant first sacker led the coast league in every branch of plain and fancy swat. The fans bulged the stadiums to see him play. He often quadrupled the usual attendance and sports writers said he was worth $5,000 a game, even with an agonizing knee.

HORSE WOULD KICK: The knee, injured in an automobile crackup in 1945, was aggravated by a pitched ball last April, and shortly thereafter local medicos opined an operation was in order. But Big Luke's "draw" was irresistible. He stayed in the lineup.

Sportswriters even in the conservative papers finally got to clucking about it.

Dick Hyland of the Los Angeles **Times**, conceding Big Luke was a "showboat" who was "burning up the league" and keeping the turnstiles hot, worried the day Easter dropped at the plate and barely got up.

No trainer at a racetrack, Hyland chided, would "ask a horse to do what Easter is doing."

SCORCHED INDIANS: Ned Cronin, sports editor of the Los Angeles **Daily News**, got the idea too. After Luke was yanked to Cleveland for his operation—and probably to stay with the Indians for their pennant project—Cronin declared the eight coast club owners looked like "heartbroken pallbearers." Said he:

"When Big Luke left, the blow hit them where it hurt the most — right in their pocketbooks. There has never been anything like him for unadulterated drawing power."

Another commentator called the owners who kept Easter limping to the fleshpots for a month and a half "penny-wise and pound-foolish."

Earliest and sharpest criticism came from **Nat Low**, reporter for the Daily **People's World**, west coast leftwing journal, who rallied progressives against exploitation of the Negro star and sent a scorching letter to the Indians.

Greenberg's reply Low called a "diplomatic cover-up" for the Padres. Hank immediately flew west and jerked Big Luke by plane to Cleveland.

THE ATOMIC CLOUT: The new Negro star, an ex-GI and a former member of the CIO Shipbuilding Workers, was born 27 years ago in St. Louis. He's 6 feet, 4½ inches, weighs 245 and regularly explodes a ball more than 450 feet.

He's a new great in baseball—on that the fans agree. They only argue about how great. Wherever the John Henry of swat plays, the fans wave their hands and gabble about the neat batting average of .363 he earned while clouting out 25 home runs and clubbing in 92 tallies. Babe Ruth arguments spring up all over the bleachers; Big Luke grins and waves back.

BIG LUKE

Books for Progressives

A Canadian on the cold war

By Ralph Peterson

"WHAT I have seen and heard convinces me beyond all doubt that we are wrong when we say that the future of the world and of freedom hinges on the outcome of the Russo-American clash."

So writes Canadian newsman Leslie Roberts, whose simple, unpretentious report on Europe today has been blackballed on many literary pages. With an almost naive indignation, Roberts charges into the European ferment with fists clenched.

His book places the original blame for the cold war on Western shoulders, condemns our systematic support of reactionary and fascist governments over all others, and predicts ultimate failure for democracy in the struggle for world prestige, unless we mend our foreign ways. Nor does he blind himself to the fact that the friction engineered by the cold war is causing equally reprehensible actions on the part of a surrounded and harried Soviet Union.

HONESTY: One of the reasons for the rare quality of Roberts' reporting is his procedure of ignoring renegades and exiles from so-called "Iron Curtain" countries as sources of information. He confines his reporting on the contested lands to the obvious but competent limits of his own eyesight. He is a real reporter.

He recognizes the importance of U.S. world leadership, but adds: "If that leadership is always on the side of people and their freedom, then the peace will be saved. If not, troublous times are before us and the rôle of leadership might conceivably fall into other hands—not by guns—but by hunger and loss of faith."

Comparison of that observation with the present U.S. record abroad gives us cause for shudders.

HOME FROM THE COLD WARS. By Leslie Roberts. Beacon. 224 pp. $2.50.

Pact facts

Two pint-size publications on that diplomatic abortion. the North Atlantic Pact, both worth reading:

Abraham Chapman, an ex-soldier who was bounced as news editor of the **Daily Pacifican** (Army newspaper in Pacific area) for holding democratic views, makes a simple summary of the Pact, its announced objectives and its real motives, written for quick understanding. Invaluable for mass distribution.

Jungle Law or Human Reason, by Jessica Smith, editor of **Soviet Russia Today,** goes into the Pact in more detail, analyzing its provisions point by point and exposing its fallacies. She also shows the real extent of world opposition to the Pact and the way it scuttles the UN. The title comes from a **Wall Street Journal** editorial in which that austere spokesman for U. S. capital admitted the Pact was "jungle law."

THE NORTH ATLANTIC PACT. By Abraham Chapman. New Century. 16 pp. 3c.

JUNGLE LAW OR HUMAN REASON? By Jessica Smith. Soviet Russia Today, 114 E. 32nd St., New York 16. 48 pp. 10c.

•

GUARDIAN's special issue (April 4) on the Cultural and Scientific Conference for World Peace in New York has been the only available summarization of what really happened inside the Waldorf-Astoria Hotel on March 25-27. Now in this compilation of conference reports delivered by nearly 100 U.S. and European cultural leaders you can get the full story. The reports are so excellent that the book becomes a solid record of the international movement to prevent a third world war.

In a special "prologue" following prefaces by editor Dan Gillmor and Prof. Harlow Shapley, a newspaperman ("anonymous to avoid friction with his employer—a sad but apt commentary on the times") analyzes the press hysteria which so thoroughly distorted the aims and proceedings of the conference.

SPEAKING OF PEACE. Edited by Daniel S. Gillmor. Natl. Council of the Arts, Sciences & Professions, 49 W. 44th St., N.Y. 18, N.Y. 152 pp. $1.00.

Chicago dateline

'Liberals' progress backwards: cut school funds, reinforce T-H

By Rod Holmgren

CHICAGO

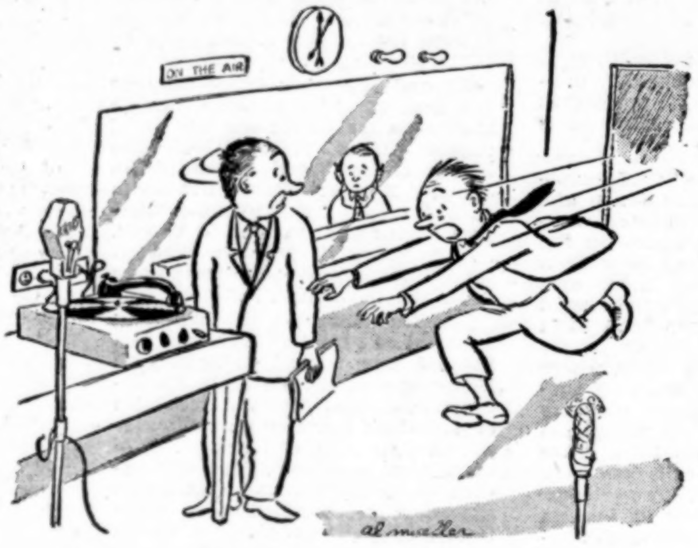
WHEN Adlai Stevenson ran for governor with Chicago **Sun-Times** support last year, he placed state aid for Illinois schools at the top of his pledge list. At his January inaugural he re-emphasized the pledge.

A month later, better schools advocates found Stevenson cold to their suggestion that $144,000,000 in state aid was needed for the next two years "to do the job properly."

Led by the Illinois Education Association, the better schools groups then proposed a "compromise" figure of $123,000,000. Pressure from the Governor's office on legislative committees further reduced the figure to a bit more than $111,000,000.

The day after the Governor abruptly adjourned the Illinois Assembly last week, the **Sun-Times** said: "Gov. Stevenson wrested a late victory from the Republican Senate when he won a reduction of $11,148,000 in the school aid bill."

School superintendent Dr. Herold C. Hunt said that even if all Chicago's share of the $100,319,000 now allocated were used for raises, salary boosts to underpaid teachers would not be more than 7%.



"Stop it, quick! That's the speech the Senator made before election!"

TIME & SEN. DOUGLAS: The "victory" of Illinois' other "1948 liberal", freshman Democratic Senator Paul Douglas, has been won on the labor front.

On Oct. 24, 1932, the **N. Y. Times** thus quoted Douglas: "This is the only country in the world where both the major parties are conservative. (They both) solicit votes from the poor and money from the rich on the pretense of protecting each from the other, and in this game the poor always lose."

As a U.S. Senator, Douglas achieved greatest prominence by sponsoring "compromise" amendments to the Taft-Hartley repeal bill, including a proposal for Presidential seizure power in national strikes.

"MANY GRACIOUS THINGS": In a speech attacking the Douglas seizure amendment, Sen. Matthew M. Neely (D-W.Va.) remarked: "I have noticed some of the articles in reactionary papers that never supported the Democratic Party. They are saying many gracious things about (Douglas), and about his statesmanlike approach to the Taft-Hartley law. He also favors more compromises than the Administration approves, won't accept a flat 75-cent minimum wage, and is even more vigorout than Republicans in advocating economy."

To Progressive Party members in Illinois, none of this was news. During the 1948 campaign, a Progressive fact sheet described Douglas as "reaction covered up in fine phrases of academic liberalism." (He was professor of economics at the University of Chicago for many years).

PP members also recalled what Douglas wrote to Harold Ickes on Feb. 4, 1948, as quoted by H. Barnard: "If Franco in Spain is overthrown by the Communists in Spain, we should consider that a declaration of war on us by Russia."

Progressive Sundays

Among the many Roosevelt College students with part-time jobs are a number of youths, some white, some Negro, with assignments in the college's library.

The library assistants held a beach party June 26 at the 55th Street Promontory on Chicago's southside lakefront. Some white youths attacked Al Desales, a Negro student, fracturing his jaw in six places with a baseball bat. The party broke up.

Young Progressives of Illinois, Roosevelt chapter, announced another beach party at the same place Sunday, July 3. Roosevelt College's Dean Emery Balduf, Police Commissioner Prendergast, and a spokesman for the Chicago Commission on Human Relations tried to get YPI to call it off. But 300 white and colored Roosevelt students, "chaperoned" by Milton "Ted" Raynor, Cook County Progressive Party Treasurer, came and stayed all day without incident.

Michael Leglaire, acting YPI chairman at Roosevelt, said this week: "We're going back next Sunday, and the Sunday after that, too."

West Coast wire

Anglo-U.S. terror against Canadian seamen

By Gene Richards

LOS ANGELES

TOP spokesmen for both right and left wings of the California CIO movement last week lashed out at an Anglo-U.S. conspiracy to break the Canadian Seamen's Union strike, and charged terrorism in the death of two strikers in the Port of Los Angeles.

"You have been and are doing everything in your power to smash the Canadian Seamen's Union," declared a protest sent to the British consul in Los Angeles, to the U.S. State Department, to all Canadian shipowners and to the Los Angeles Police Department.

The petition was signed by James Daugherty, president of the progressive California State CIO Council, and Clarence H. Stinson, who was elected by pro-Phil Murray forces to head the "reorganized" Los Angeles CIO Council. The protest also bore the signatures of leaders of many progressive CIO unions in the state.

STOP THE TERROR: "Here in Los Angeles," the petition declared, "two Canadian seamen were fished out of the harbor—dead. Despite the fact that there were threats of violence prior to their deaths, and despite the fact that protection was requested by the seamen, no such protection was forthcoming."

The unionists demanded immediate negotiations on wages, hours and conditions, told the state and immigration departments to stop "persecuting" strikers, and called for immediate investigation of "the reign of terror . . . which has resulted in two deaths."

They called upon the British consul to halt use of his office to "strikebreak."

The SS Argobec, struck in the Los Angeles Harbor, is one of 80 Canadian ships tied up around the world. The CSU has charged the AFL Seafarers Intl. Union signed a backdoor contract without hiring hall and wage-increase provisions while the CSU was negotiating to improve its old agreement.

The CIO blast at the Los Angeles police department coincided with the "retirement" under fire of Police Chief C. B. Horrall, and his replacement by former Marine Major William Worton, in the midst of a grand jury investigation of alleged vice squad graft, bookmaking payoffs and police brutality.

Guardian asks reports FROM readers

BACK last January, this column speculated on the possibility of a nationwide network of progressive weekly newspapers, pooling their newsgathering efforts in a national news and feature service "to give AP and UP some healthy, grass-roots competition."

Whether or not the idea of a network of weeklies is one of those "Shop Talk at 30" pipe dreams, the need for some brisk and determined competition against the present news wire services has seldom been more clearly demonstrated than in the last few weeks and months.

When the New Jersey Supreme Court reversed the convictions of the Trenton Six and ordered a new trial for them two weeks ago, the wire services sent the story out to newspapers all over the country.

But to many of these newspapers, the very fact that there was a Trenton case before the N. J. Supreme Court was brand new news.

THE reason was that—even though the six Trenton Negroes had been convicted back in August, 1948, on forced confessions and against a background of civic corruption, and after a trial in which experts pointed out obvious irregularities—the wire services did not think the case newsworthy enough to report it at the time.

Finally, via the GUARDIAN and the Civil Rights Congress, the case became a national and international issue. Still it was not newsy enough for the wire services. Only when foreign papers picked up some GUARDIAN stories did the case "bounce back", to land in a few commercial American papers.

In plain fact, a wire service blackout has existed against news of the Trenton case from the start.

●

NOW there is a gathering depression in the U.S. Millions and millions of Americans know this, for the very simple reason that they are out of jobs.

Why they are out of work, and how many other Americans like them are out of work in the thousands of industrial communities of our country, the victims have no way of finding out.

Any one of the big U. S. wire services—Associated Press, United Press, International News Service—could provide the public with full details on the present unemployment with no more effort than by sending a press query to every state, regional and community bureau and correspondent throughout the country.

But there is also a blackout on news of the 1949 depression.

NATIONAL GUARDIAN would like to gather and print the answers to some of these questions. There are GUARDIAN readers in virtually every community of the United States.

You men and women know the answers for your own community, or you can find them out quickly.

So herewith the GUARDIAN "queries" you, as follows:

- What is the extent of unemployment in your community, city and/or state?
- What industries are most affected? Name names.
- What reasons are given for reduction in employment?
- Is there evidence to indicate whether the lack of trade with China, Russia and eastern Europe is responsible for cut-backs?
- Have local plants or contracts been shifted to foreign countries?
- How has unemployment affected your community, in terms of economic hardship for the victims and the effect of lowered buying power on local merchants, landlords, etc.?
- Is any agency or political group in your community facing up to these problems? What are they doing?

IF you yourself cannot supply the answers to these questions, will you try to find someone who can? Now?

Yours for a million GUARDIAN readers,

John T. McManus

Enter the following introductory subs to
NATIONAL GUARDIAN:

●

One 40-week sub for $1
Four 10-week subs for $1

40 wks 10 wks
☐ ☐ ....
PRINT name address ZONE state
☐ ☐ ....
☐ ☐ ....
☐ ☐ ....

☐ Bill me
$........ enclosed

Sender's name ....

Address ....
....

NATIONAL GUARDIAN 17 Murray St., New York 7

Ex's in Exile

Peasants in striped pants yearn for good old Polish pogroms

By Ed Falkowski

WASHINGTON

DIPLOMATS representing governments that have not governed for years may seem used, or at least decidedly shop-soiled, to most of the world. But everyone knows that to people who matter in America they are just as good as new. They make a lot of noise to which many listen, and conduct painstaking intrigues. How much they succeed in adding to the confusion that already exists is hard to measure.

Among recent hangovers reaching our shores from London's hand-me-down world of governments-in-exile was one Tadeusz Bielecki. To Americans he is not widely known. Among Poles he is a byword for his pre-war leadership of Poland's National Democratic Party.

LOVABLE: The National Democrats—known as Endeks—were the ultra-rightists in Polish political life. They inspired pogroms and drives to terrorize trade unions. One of their members was responsible for the assassination of Poland's left-wing President Narutowicz two days after he took office on December 16, 1922.

Their program called for a corporate state and an alliance with Hitler. Their organ **Szaniec** openly approved in 1942 of Hitler's campaign to exterminate Polish Jewry.

With such a background, Bielecki did not find Washington's climate uncongenial. Doors were opened readily and he was received by Herbert Hoover and Sens. Vandenberg, Ferguson, Knowland and Wiley. Sen. Taft took Bielecki to his desiccated bosom, and the AFL-CIO's "Bill" and "Phil" embraced him as the spokesman of a "democratic Poland."

He had a long audience with Cardinal Spellman. Bielecki's U.S. publicity man strove hard to prove that money spent on public relations is a wise investment.

ASSORTED DREAMERS: Like ex-Premier Mikolajczyk and others who preceded him to Washington, Bielecki offered to his prospects in the State Dept. a handsome stake in a future Poland existing in his own fancy. Mr. Bielecki's Poland would be an anti-Semitic corporate state commendably free of "reds."

The Poland that now exists, where 30-odd million citizens are busy putting their war-shattered country into ordered shape, does not please everyone in the State Dept. None of the statesmen-in-exile has ever conceded its reality. The "legal" government is the one in London headed by August Zaleski—a continuation of the Pilsudski "Colonels'" regime.

This government insists on its exclusive legality despite claims made by Tomasz Arczizewski, former government-in-exile head and a Socialist, to the contrary. Arczizewski is himself head of a shadowy sub-government-in-exile which continues to hold meetings and deliberate policies. A third "government"—a parilament-in-exile known as the Polish National Council—still holds sessions in London.

THOSE * * * RUSSIANS! Bielecki's self-appointed task is to weave these thin and faded threads into some sort of a pattern—with a Bielecki motif predominant in the resulting patchwork. Last month he took off quietly for London to see what he could do about it.

POLAND
NO JEWS
NO REDS

He and the other exiles welcome the cold war as a possible turn in their fortunes. As for the late world unpleasantness of 1939-1945, the Endek organ **Narod** explained on January 2, 1942: "We do not desire that Russian Communism participate in this war as one of its victors. . . . As victors in this war between the bolsheviks and the Germans—we favor the Germans. . . ."

To give substance to that view, a General Bohun Swietokrzyska Brigade was formed to fight with Hitler against the Russians. Underground National Armed Forces were organized to terrorize peasants suspected of pro-Soviet leanings. Hundreds were murdered. Lists of "suspects" were prepared, which Gestapo executioners found handy when their killing-pens ran out of Jewish victims.

IN OLD MADRID: When Poland was invaded in 1939, Bielecki fled to Paris where he sought to convince General Sikorski that it was useless to prosecute the war. Failing to dampen Sikorski's determination, he went to Spain, where for the next two years Franco extended him cordial hospitality while he awaited the Hitler victory he thought was inevitable.

Stalingrad jarred him out of his waiting mood and brought him hurrying to London to align himself with the winning side. His contributions to the world struggle against fascism included a lecture at Oxford in 1944 extolling the corporate state.

Beached in London in 1945, he led the rightist opposition against the Socialists and Christian Democrats. British generosity made available ample funds to encourage exiled leaders to hope that running exile governments could be as much a career as running one actually anchored in time and space. Meanwhile the Endek troops had fled with Hitler's armies to the U.S. and British zones of Germany as "DPs."

PEASANTS IN MONOCLES: Even exile governments run out of funds, and in the faded capital of the British Empire boondoggling became difficult. But prospects brightened with the news of Washington plans for "Operation X" sabotage in Eastern Europe.

To curry Washington's favor, Mikolajczyk obligingly formed a Green Peasants International in Paris—an organization of personages more addicted to wearing striped pants, living in swank hotels, and writing voluminous memoirs than to wielding hoes.

GREEN
PEASANTS
INTERNATIONAL

The Polish Socialists-in-exile obliged, too. They formed an organization committed to the overthrow of socialist Poland.

Nevertheless, State Department shoppers found the Poles difficult because of their known inability to compromise.

GOOD LUCK, TAD! Mikolajczyk sought to compose the factional differences; he was condemned as a "pro-Soviet collaborator." Others tried and failed.

Bielecki thus offers his talents in a field surprisingly devoid of success, if not of competition. The $64 question now is: Who is going to get his hands first into the new State Department swag? Bielecki may have won more than an even chance at the initial grab. Public-relations-wise, he had smooth sailing here.

Yet Bielecki somehow failed to deceive the Polish-American public. Even the Polish-language press which ballyhooed him failed to save his "mass meetings" from being dismal flops.

If he can make something out of the Polish pot-pourri in London, he will deserve due credit as a prestidigitator. If he can make something for Bielecki, that would at least help.

Mitchell

(Continued from Page 4)

to legal advice. A young clerk listened sympathetically, but said there was nothing the VA could do. He suggested she try the New York newspaper **PM**.

At **PM**, a reporter was assigned to take her story. He was encouraging, and Bessie felt certain that something would come of it. But one week later **PM** became the **Star** and her story was lost in the shuffle.

Friends suggested she try other newspapers. She telephoned every metropolitan daily she knew of in New York City — including the **Times** — with no result.

NO ANSWERS: She then sent registered letters to Gov. Driscoll, the editor of the Trenton **Times** and the "Supreme Court Judge," Trenton. (At the post office she tried to find out the judge's name, but was told it wasn't necessary, that he'd get the letter anyway.) None of Bessie's three letters was answered.

She went to the Negro ministers in Trenton. Although all offered their prayers, most seemed to share the opinion of young Rev. Grayson, who said: "Those men wouldn't be down there if they weren't guilty."

One night, lying in bed trying to think of where to go next, Bessie heard the radio program **This Is Your FBI**. The program told how the energetic, efficient FBI smashed to bits a corrupt political machine.

At nine o'clock next morning Bessie Mitchell was at the FBI office in New York. A Mr. Cue of the FBI referred her to a Long Island City detective named Brown, who referred her to L. I. City Dist. Atty. Short, who sent her back to Trenton police Capt. Delate, who said: "Nothing doing. Those six are guilty."

Later she saw FBI men in Newark and Trenton, who would take no action. The FBI's interest in corrupt political machines, she concluded, was confined to radio scripts.

NAACP STALLS: Just before the trial began last June, Bessie went to the national office of the NAACP in New York. For more than an hour she tried to persuade Edward R. Dudley (later appointed U.S. Minister to Liberia) to help.

Dudley explained that the national office could take no action without a request from the Trenton branch, but promised to "take a run down there and see what's going on."

Bessie didn't hear from the NAACP again for nine months. Then, after millions of people throughout the world had heard about the Trenton Six, and after dozens of other organizations had come forward to support the defense, the NAACP announced they would file a friend-of-the-court brief for the Six's appeal.

Meanwhile Bessie rushed from work in New York to Trenton every night. She spent weeks walking the streets of Trenton's west side, talking to people, asking where she might go for help.

One evening, during the first week of September, just as she was starting to canvass the east side of the city, she saw a leaflet on the street mentioning civil rights; a box number was given.

"I'm going to call their bluff," she decided, and sent a letter that night.

Two days later, during the first week of September, Bessie signed papers authorizing Arthur Brown, N. J. director of the Civil Rights Congress, to enter the case.

CRC GETS ACTION: Bessie's first public appearance was at a Wallace rally in Newark last September. She has since spoken hundreds of times—at at universities, churches, lodges, union meetings, street corners, YMCA auditoriums, and even before 15,000 in Madison Square Garden—and she takes it in her stride now.

"But that first time—whew!" she now recalls. "I had stage-fright something awful when I got up there in front of all those people. I was terribly nervous, stumbling, stammering, saying 'er' and 'ah'—I just couldn't get two words out. But then all of a sudden I realized this was finally my chance to tell people what happened. I stopped being scared. I had a job to do."

This is the woman who is responsible for bringing the case of the Trenton Six to the attention of millions — if the **Times** is really interested.

* * *

When NATIONAL GUARDIAN came into existence last fall, William A. Reuben was assigned to the Trenton case.

Our first story, in the Oct. 25 issue, called it a "Northern Scottsboro Case." The GUARDIAN's story was the first to appear on Bessie Mitchell's untiring campaign for justice in Trenton with the exception of an article in the New Jersey Worker. *The GUARDIAN has continued Bessie's campaign ever since.*

The rest of the case is now known to millions. The N.J. Supreme Court found four glaring errors in the trial, including evidence of forced confessions. Tentative date for retrial has been set for September. Ed.

Are we monkeys?

Every progressive voice needs to be raised against the Feinberg Law, the most pre-Adamite legislation in the history of the purportedly civilized State of New York, according to Dr. Clyde R. Miller, head of the Academic Freedom Committee of the Natl. Council of the Arts, Sciences and Professions.

Dr. Miller urged individuals and organizations to wire Dr. Welles Moot, chairman of the Regents Committee, 402 Eire County Savings Bank Bldg., Buffalo 2, N. Y., requesting the right to speak at the July 14 Board of Regents hearing. The law, forbidding scho employment of any memb of a "subversive" organization, calls for decision as to which are subversive.